

THE TIMES

Is Britain heading for a military coup?
Lord Chalfont, page 12

No better living standard for a year at least, Mr Wilson says

Britain is facing the gravest economic crisis since the war, Mr Wilson said yesterday. Nobody but the hardest hit could expect any measurable improvement in living standards for at least a year.

The Government is to allow the deficit on trade in petroleum and petroleum products to remain until North Sea oil revenues mount in the late 1970s, Mr Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Trade, has disclosed.

World prices falling but hard fight ahead

Our Political Staff
Britain was facing "the gravest economic crisis since the war", the Prime Minister said yesterday. He added that nobody but the hardest hit could expect any measurable improvement in living standards for at least a year.

Commenting that in certain respects there were signs of improvement, he said world prices seemed to be moderating some of them falling, but it would take months to get rough to price levels in the oil and other areas. In one or two other areas, he believed, we are getting to grips with it, but it is going to be a very hard fight, and except those who are hardest hit and had to be protected, nobody could expect any measurable improvement in living standards for at least a year.

Refusing to accept new catastrophe as a description of Britain's position, Mr Wilson, who was being interviewed in the BBC radio programme *The World This Week*, said: "It is not that we can only get by with all our might, but when Labour came to office they were given a warning throughout the likely growth of unemployment. That was why the Chancellor of the Exchequer said his 'mini-budget' and though he could have done more and in some ways would have liked to do more, he had taken a cautious line and will be ready to fight unemployment in the autumn."

Mr Wilson claimed that the Government had been very frank with the country. "There was no difference between the Tories, but nothing like so wide as the differences between economists and commentators about what should be done. As for the country, the Tories or state control did any good for national confidence, Mr Wilson replied that Labour's plans had not been published. "There has been too much

Most voters favour an election, poll shows

The public now appears ready to accept the case for an early general election. A special survey for *The Times*, carried out by Opinion Research Centre, finds that most voters feel Mr Wilson would be justified in calling an election.

The survey examined three areas of public opinion that could play an important part in shaping the outcome of an early election:

Attitudes to the present minority situation in Parliament.

The degree of support for an early election and views about the timing of an election.

Labour and Conservative positions that have registered and unregistered themselves on the minds of voters.

Which of these two statements comes closest to your own views (card shown):

	All	C	Lab	L
It is much better for the country to have a government with an overall majority in Parliament because it can take strong measures needed to tackle the problems facing the country.	70	75	75	80
It is much better for the country to have a government without an overall majority because it will share more responsibility and cannot do things which are only supported by its own party.	24	21	20	14

Villagers tell of Cyprus atrocities

In the past 48 hours the Turks have also moved Greek Cypriot families out of the Dome Hotel in Kyrenia, where they had sought United Nations protection, and out of the villages of Bellapais, Therma and Kazanli. Women, children and old people have been driven in Turkish army buses to Nicosia where they crossed into the Greek sector. The able bodied men were taken prisoner.

Between 1,000 and 2,000 Greek Cypriot men are now understood to be held in transit camps in the Turkish captured areas. The Turks have refused requests that they be visited by Red Cross delegates. Some of the prisoners are believed to have been shipped to Turkey.

In a message to 50 world leaders and organisations, Mr Glafkos Clerides, the Cyprus President, complained of the behaviour of the Turks. "The Turkish Army, after occupying the Greek inhabited area in and around the city of Kyrenia, have systematically looted and

Government will allow oil deficit to remain

By Tim Congdon
Business News Staff

The Government does not intend to eliminate the main part of the trade deficit. The "oil deficit" is to remain until revenue from North Sea oil eases the situation in the late 1970s.

This has been disclosed by Mr Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade. He said: "It is not part of the Government's strategy to try to earn more abroad than is needed to rectify the non-oil deficit in our balance of payments."

By the "oil deficit", Mr Deakins appears to mean the deficit on trade in petroleum and petroleum products. That is not the same as the definition by the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which is that part of the deficit on trade in petroleum and petroleum products attributable to the increase in oil prices since last October.

In the second quarter of this year the total deficit on petrol was £31m a month, much the largest component of the overall trade deficit of £456m. The non-oil deficit on Mr Deakins' definition is therefore at present £14m a month.

The disclosure of the Government's plan came in an article by Mr Deakins in this week's *Export*, the journal of the Institute of Exporters.

The importance of his article is twofold. First, it confirms the Government's determination to discourage international "beggar-my-neighbour" policies.

Britain has "to try to work together to avoid the strangling of international trade through import restrictions or export policies which could help to solve one country's problems only at the expense of another", Mr Deakins writes.

Secondly, it suggests that the Government is taking a fairly sanguine view of the present state of payments. Although it has been generally understood that the main policy objective was to remove the non-oil deficit, and that the oil deficit was to be covered by borrowing, it has not been stated unequivocally before.

Mr Deakins' definition would require a shift of about 1 per cent. To remove it on the OECD's definition would require a shift of about 21 per cent.

The higher OECD non-oil deficit is due to the fact that, before October last year, Britain regularly had a 275m deficit on trade in petrol and petrol products.

In the accompanying tables all results are in percentages. Most voters, of all parties, felt that Britain would be better served by a government which had an overall majority in Parliament, and was thus able to take whatever strong measures it deemed necessary to tackle the country's difficulties.

Two hostages and two captors killed in gun battle at end of jail siege

Huntsville, Texas, Aug 4.—A storm of bullets and tear gas last night led to a gun battle at the end of a 25-second barrage of gunfire from prison guards who were determined that Carrasco, reputed head of an international drug smuggling ring and wanted for more than 40 murders in Mexico and the United States, would not escape.

The hostages killed in the burst of more than 100 bullets were Mrs Julia Standley, aged 43, a Huntsville librarian, and Mrs Elizabeth Beseda, aged 47, a Huntsville school teacher. They were the hostages nearest

Portugal to recognize independence of Guinea-Bissau

From Jose Shercliff
Lisbon, Aug 4

Portugal is formally re-iterating its willingness to decolonize and as a first step will recognize the Republic of Guinea-Bissau as an independent state. Immediate transfer of powers will be arranged and Portugal will support the new nation in its request for membership of the United Nations.

This announcement was made today in an eight-point statement by the United Nations information department distributed in Lisbon on the departure of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General. Dr Waldheim arrived here on Friday at the invitation of General Spínola and left today for Zurich.

It is significant that Guinea should be the first territory to be liberated, for President Spínola was until recently its governor and commander in chief of its armed forces. Guinea has been under Portuguese rule for some 450 years. General Spínola has always insisted that the differences between Guinea, Angola and Mozambique made it necessary for their decolonization processes to be different.

Today's statement referred to Portugal's reaffirmation of its adherence to the United Nations declaration on granting independence to colonial people and territories recognized the rights of the peoples under its administration to self-determination and independence and announced willingness to give quick recognition to Guinea-Bissau as an independent state.

Portugal also announced its willingness to cooperate with the United Nations in speeding up the decolonization of the Cape Verde Islands. These islands, strategically placed in

the Atlantic, are regarded by Portugal as a particularly valuable protective outpost, and it had always wished to deal with their future separately from that of Guinea.

The Guinea nationalists, however, have always been in favour of a package deal on independence for the two territories together.

So far as Mozambique is concerned, the Portuguese Government recognizes the right of the people to self-determination and independence and will take immediate measures to enter into negotiation with representatives of Frelimo to speed up the process of the independence of that territory."

Reports from Mozambique in the last few days have stated that the commander of the armed forces has announced that the peace is a reality in various regions but that no formal pact has yet been made.

Portuguese soldiers and Frelimo guerrillas are reported to have been working side by side, removing landmines from roads and railways in the north. Mozambique radio announced during the weekend that Frelimo had agreed to a ceasefire in various districts.

Meetings have taken place between members of the local population and Frelimo and it would appear that ceasefire negotiations are under way at least at a regional level. The military commander and the governor of the northern Tete district have met the commander of the fourth sector of the guerrilla fighters, according to one report.

Today's United Nations statement said the Portuguese south Atlantic islands of Sao Tomé and Príncipe are also included in the decolonization plans. Contact will be established with the Angola Liberation Move-

ment with a view to formal negotiation.

A final clause in the statement says there is a possibility of the United Nations General Assembly reconsidering former decisions and granting aid to Portugal to implement its decolonization progress.

Algiers, Aug 4.—African representatives of Guinea-Bissau are ready to work with Portugal to decolonize the territory, the leader of the African nationalists of Guinea-Bissau was quoted here today as saying.

According to Algerian radio, Mr Aristide Pereira, General Secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC) gave his party's reaction to the United Nations announcement in a message. The radio did not say where the message was published.—Reuter.

Weather worthy of the trenches: Old Contemptibles waiting in the rain to board a coach at Aldershot yesterday after their last annual service. Report, page 2.

Terrorists' bomb kills 12 on Italian train

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Aug 4

Shocked public opinion was tonight trying to face the consequences of the double explosion on the Rome-Munich train, one of the worst terrorist attacks in Italy's postwar history. Beyond the innocent passengers killed and injured in the Brenner Express train, it "absolutely unjustified and offensive to the dignity of man".

Some of the injured were holiday-makers, including Dutch and Americans. Many of the passengers were thought to have been Italians working in West Germany.

The dead were too badly burnt for immediate identification.

It is not yet clear whether the bomb was intended to explode in the tunnel as the train was running late. Had it been on time, the bomb would have exploded in Bologna station.

Suppose that the terrorists, who are widely thought to belong to the extreme right, aimed at carrying out their massacre in the heartland of the left.

The bomb exploded shortly before the train left the tunnel, which is several miles long.

The attack was timed for the night of the heaviest traffic on the Italian railways, the height of the holiday season. The train—known as the *Italicus* express—was carrying about 1,000 passengers.

The country has suffered a regular blight of hothouse explosions amounting now to several hundred, and most are blamed on terrorists of the extreme right.

There can be little doubt that many of these attacks form part of a consistent attempt at creating tension. They have been hindered by the extraordinary firm refusal by a large part of Italian public opinion to react in the way the terrorists desire—in other words, to regard their work as justification for despair concerning the present political system.

The three main trade union federations tonight called on workers throughout the coun-

Two hostages and two captors killed in gun battle at end of jail siege

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The hostages killed in the burst of more than 100 bullets were Mrs Julia Standley, aged 43, a Huntsville librarian, and Mrs Elizabeth Beseda, aged 47, a Huntsville school teacher. They were the hostages nearest

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An area of low pressure disobeys forecasters

By a Staff Reporter

Thousands of people who were tempted out on one of the busiest weekends of the year by the promise of sunny weather, with only slight risk of showers, had their optimism severely damped yesterday.

The London Weather Centre had forecast for the South of England, Wales and the Channel Islands dry weather with sunny periods and temperatures in the upper sixties on Saturday, and sunny intervals with occasional showers, mainly in the North, yesterday. Instead, torrential rain and thunderstorms swept the southern part of the country.

Farmers in the New Forest did a brisk bed and breakfast to solitary confinement placed in solitary confinement. In Norfolk and Suffolk the sodden beaches were deserted, while inland, the last of the soft fruit crop rotted in the fields for want of volunteer pickers. Harvest fields and

Good times are here again.

Zurich-10.00 hrs. Geneva-10.10 hrs.

Zurich. A total of 30 flights a week from London Heathrow, with a new 10.00 hrs. departure daily.

Geneva. A total of 23 flights a week from London Heathrow, with a daily departure at 10.10 hrs. Also twice a week from Manchester, Tuesday and Saturday, at 10.35 hrs.

Basle. Daily at 17.40 hrs. from London Heathrow.

Your travel agent or British Airways shop will tell you more.

British Airways

We'll take more care of you.

HOME NEWS

Mr Wilson accuses Tories of 'utterly squalid' exchanges with Ulster Unionist MPs

By Our Political Staff
Mr Wilson yesterday described as "utterly squalid" the Conservative leadership's rejection of the Ulster Unionist MP's offer to join the Government...

The Conservative record in Northern Ireland was very good and Labour backed it. For them to change completely and to repudiate the Ulster Unionist approach...

Mr Gilmour, who was expressly replying to a statement issued by Mr Mellish, the Ulster Unionist MP, said that Mr Heath had seen Mr West, as he had seen other leaders of Ulster opinion...

Patronage by Prime Minister is criticized

By Our Political Staff
Mr Wilson's use of patronage as Prime Minister is condemned in the summer issue of the Political Quarterly, published this week...

Final parade of the soldiers who made history Old Contemptibles' Last Post

From Philip Howard Aldershot
The Old Contemptibles marched for the last time yesterday on the sixtieth anniversary to the day of their dispersal and final Last Post...

labelled with their names and rows of medals, piped their favourite hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers". Every time the congregation knelt or stood...

Fresh effort to end Heathrow dispute

By Alan Hamilton
Fresh efforts will be made today to settle the Heathrow air traffic dispute...

The men are employed Shell-Mex and BP, a large pilot of aviation fuel to British Airways and many other airlines using Heathrow...

IRA amnesty offer to Long Kesh informers

From Robert Fisk Belfast
The Provisional IRA in Belfast yesterday extended its "amnesty" for informers to include Republican inmates of the Maze prison at Long Kesh...

some time that prisoners at Long Kesh have been giving information and there have been several makeshift trials in the prison over the past few months...

Belfast to Dublin road near the Army later blew up but it is not clear whether it had driven into the back of it and another had swerved off the road to avoid a collision...

Poll shows 48% think that Labour will win election

Continued from page 1
No party gained an overall majority in Parliament. Six voters out of 10 said they were unhappy with the election result...

would or would not be justified in causing an election now by defeating the Labour Government in Parliament on so important issue?

The Lab Gov would carry on 27 28 52 14
Another general election 21 29 38 24 23
A coalition with the Conservatives 5 4 10 1 3

Q—When would you prefer the next general election to be held? (Card shown):
Now 10 13 9 12
In Sept 29 32 29 27

Q—Can you think of any-thing the Conservative Opposition done since the last election?
Stunned Lab giving money back to Tories 4 7 1
Opposed nationalisation 3 9 1

Dearer sugar likely despite assured supplies

By Hugh Clayton
Although the Government has managed to secure uninterrupted supplies of low-priced Commonwealth sugar for the next few months, the Commission may still have to allow higher prices in shops...

Tate & Lyle, the largest suppliers, will not say if they have put a case for rises. But it is understood that the company's cost increases in Britain, in packaging materials and thresholds pay rises...

Mr Roy Hughes, Labour MP for Newport, will urge Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, to take Britain out of the EEC quota system...

Committee opposes general defence to contempt

By Our Legal Correspondent
The Phillimore committee, whose long-awaited report on the law of contempt of court is to be published this month, opposes the idea of a general defence to contempt based on overriding public benefit...

When a number of choices are offered, there is no consensus about the best course of action if the Labour Government were defeated in Parliament...

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded
Sun rises: 5.30 am. Sun sets: 8.43 pm. Moon rises: 11.41 am. Moon sets: 9.4 pm.

SE England, E Anglia: Dry, sunny spells, rather cloudy in places at first; wind N, moderate, becoming light; max temp 20°C.

98 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 p.m. 26in. Sun, 24hr to 7 p.m., all 26 in. mean sea level, 7 pm, 1.011 millibars, rising, 1.000 millibars = 29.53in.

"Courage in old age deserves a bequest of practical help"

LL Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks
"Just as I am proud of our soldiers, I salute the fortitude of old people battling against very difficult housing, often condemned to live in lonely solitude."

When I am no longer alive I want my support to continue, and it will do so through Help the Aged whose flats and Day Centres are doing so much to give back the happiness that should be part of old age...

Boy aged six found murdered near his home

The unclothed body of Gary Shields, aged 6, was found yesterday hidden in thickets on waste ground about a hundred yards from his home in the River View, North Shields, Northumberland. He had been sexually assaulted and suffocated.

Police still lack a lead in kidnap search

The police said yesterday that information from all over the country had not produced any significant lead in their search for Mr Barry Robinson, a former Bradford patient sought in connexion with the kidnaping of a constable and two motorists last week.

£50,000 for Eisteddfod

The Government will give £50,000 towards the £250,000 cost of a new pavilion for the national Eisteddfod of Wales, Mr Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, said last night, when the Eisteddfod opened at Caernarvon.

Commemorate someone dear to you now. £150 names a flat, or inscribes a name on the Founder's Plaque of a new Day Centre. £250 names a double flat.

*A helpful and interesting new booklet on reducing estate duty is now available on request from: The Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room 27L, 3 Denham Street, London W1A 2AP.

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HOME NEWS

Houses can 'best help' the mentally handicapped

By a Staff Reporter
Mentally handicapped people should be able to live in small groups in ordinary houses...

Helping such people to live more normally is more humane and cheaper than building even small medical-type institutions...

Houses, rather than special wards or hostels present a better image to the community and are more satisfying to staff...

The report, aimed at architects who designed environments for people, points out that many specialized buildings already designed will not be built...

Money saved on capital costs would have to be channelled into better administration, staff and service to families...

Although the 1971 White Paper encouraged local authorities to use flats and houses more widely, they were tending to fall back to old practices...

It is difficult to persuade those with experience of hospital patterns that the problems, even though they are not primarily of health, are not best tackled by something resembling a traditional hospital set-up...

Mentally handicapped people are neither "patients" nor "menaces", the report says. They are people who have neglected rights, growing and developing, if slowly...

It follows that the living environment for them should be a home much like anybody else's, not the institutions for the convenience of staff or the architectural masterpieces produced till now...

Homes for Mentally Handicapped People (CMB Discussion Paper 4, 96 Portland Place, London, W1, 2P).

Juvenile crime rising, says police chief

Many people who still regarded crime as the domain of the adult might find that a housebroken 16-year-old "fresh faced 10-year-old"...

The fact is, more than a fifth of all burglaries this year have been committed by juveniles, he said in a report...

The police and social agencies are doing all they can to prevent youngsters getting involved in crime, but in the meantime parents must shoulder much of the responsibility for keeping their children out of trouble, Mr Sharpe said...

His report showed that at Torbay a gang of 18 children aged 11 to 14 were responsible for more than a hundred cases of housebreaking, theft and vandalism.

Members of the legal profession accept new structure in a move to achieve efficiency

Barristers form compromise central body

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent
The barristers' profession last week slipped into an organizational structure which, it hopes, will make it more adaptable to the increasing demands being made on it...

The new structure is a compromise between competing interests, as the cumbersome name of the new authority, the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Council for Legal Education, indicates...

Part of the reason was the reserve and even mutual suspicion between the 600-year-old Inns of Court, steeped in legal tradition and conservatism...

During the negotiations on the new reforms, the Inns, whose reform-making included barristers, consisted of judges (including long-retired judges) and senior members of the Bar...

Promotion to head could mean rise of only £2

Because of a middle over pay differential at state schools many of the most experienced teachers stand in gain less than £2 a week for taking on the extra responsibilities of headships...

The report by the group, which has 17,500 members, will be submitted to the Government's committee of inquiry into teachers' pay...

As an example of what is happening, the report has taken the case of primary schools of up to 330 pupils and secondary schools of up to around 270 pupils...

But the difference between their maximum salary as deputies of their present schools and the maximum they could expect as heads in the average-size schools, where their responsibilities would be far greater, was not quite £100 a year...

The association called for a new pay structure and negotiating machinery, with a section dealing exclusively with head teachers...

Apart from the restoration of acceptable differentials for all heads, it proposes that the minimum salary for a newly recruited assistant teacher should be £2,000 a year...

Pigs die in fire

Fifty sows and their litters died in a fire which swept through a piggery at Outwell, near Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, yesterday.

Battle to save Barnsley bitter engages the interest of serious drinkers

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, was striding purposefully up the steps of the residence of the United States Ambassador in London...

Both are treating seriously the closure of the small brewery and the effect it may have on constituents and customers...

At the beginning of 1973 it was announced that Barnsley Brewery, first opened in 1888, would be closed within three years and Barnsley Bitter, a brew that has sustained millions of south Yorkshiremen, would disappear...

The reason given was that the brewery could no longer be run on an economic basis. Substantial investment was required at Barnsley and at Tadcaster, about 15 miles away...

As might have been expected there was immediate and impressive response from the bitter drinkers of Barnsley. Mr Mason then in opposition, collected signatures of nearly

WEST EUROPE

Rumor party shaken by Socialist attacks

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Aug 4

Signor Mariano Rumor, the beleaguered Christian Democratic Prime Minister, faces another week of trying to press his economic measures through Parliament with at least one cause for gratitude...

This is unlikely to comfort Signor Rumor for long, however. Despite the growing economic crisis and the continuing threat from political terrorism...

A fourth explosive device, left in a parked van in front of the building of French television on the Rue de l'Université on the Left Bank failed...

Only two people were injured slightly by the explosions, both passers-by, but material damage is extensive. At L'Arriere the press of the blast was such that the contents of the bomb disintegrated completely...

A few moments before the blast a woman phoned the French press agency offices a few hundred yards away and said: "I have a message for you. An explosion is about to take place at L'Arriere..."

The result of the divorce referendum in May confirmed suspicions that the Christian Democrats were too far removed from an evolving public opinion...

While the Christian Democrats took 38.8 per cent of the total vote at the last elections, the survey shows they would attract only 15 per cent of the votes of those aged 18 to 20...

There is one element that might be of some comfort to the Christian Democrats: the older people become, the less they vote for the Communists and the more they turn to the Christian Democrats.

Some newspapers said today that Herr Godau was trying to check the files of the Federal Environmental Agency (FEA) and supply the East Germans with the names of its staff...

Transit travellers have been subjected to questioning by East German officials on their possible connexion with the FEA. However, no reports of suspicious questioning have appeared for two days.

West Berlin businessman held on spy charges

From Our Own Correspondent
Berlin, Aug 4

A West Berlin businessman has been arrested here on charges of spying for East Germany, the Prosecutor-General ruled announced yesterday...

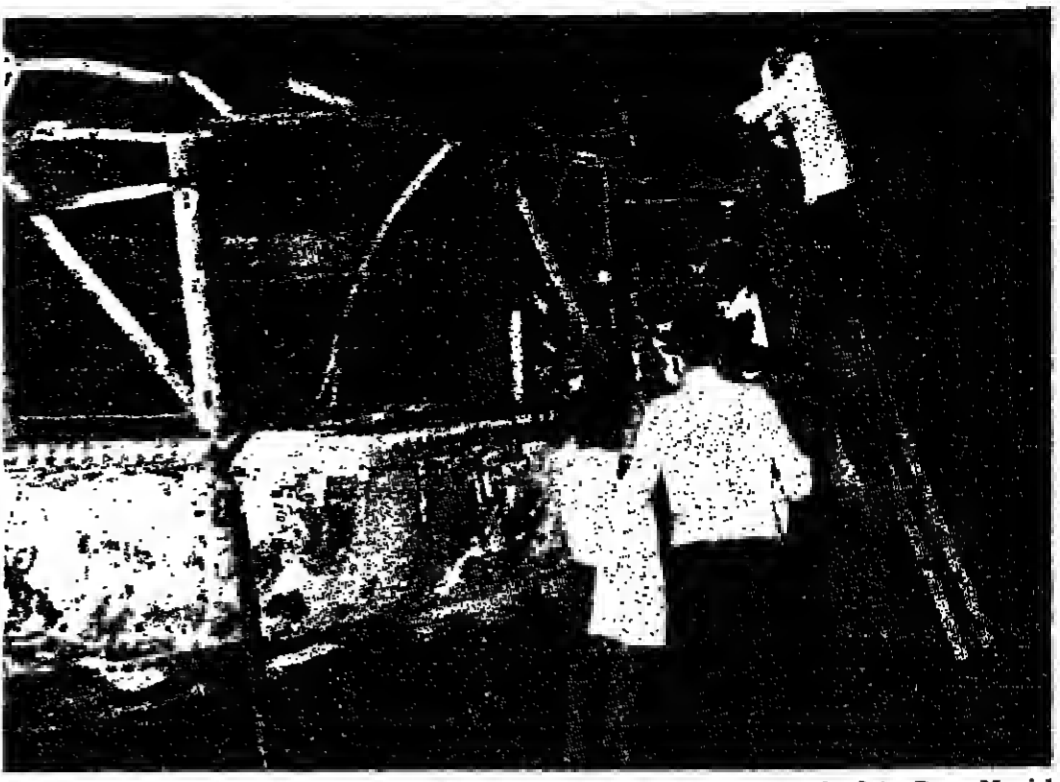
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Optimism over Britain's talks with Community

Copenhagen, Aug 4.—Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, who is on a private visit to Denmark, and Mr Harting, his Danish counterpart...

Mr Harting said after their talks "I noticed with satisfaction that the British Prime Minister said he was not going to renegotiate the treaty (of accession) but only its conditions, and I think there is therefore a good possibility of achieving positive results.—Reuter."



Firemen and nurses remove the victims and wounded from the charred coach of the Rome-Munich train, after a bomb explosion which killed 12 passengers and wounded about 40.

Paris blasts may be work of Palestinians

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Aug 4

French police have been unable so far to identify those responsible for three almost simultaneous bomb attacks in Paris on Friday night. One took place in front of the independent right-wing newspaper L'Arriere, near the Bourse...

The only thing that the police have to go on is the fact that the four vehicles involved in the attacks were all hired from a car hire agency in Paris on August 1 by a man described by the garage attendant as of medium height, dark, and somewhere between 35 and 40...

A few moments before the blast a woman phoned the French press agency offices a few hundred yards away and said: "I have a message for you. An explosion is about to take place at L'Arriere..."

At the offices of Minute, the last members of the staff were just leaving when the explosion occurred. "A fortnight ago, M. Francois Brigneau, the editor-in-chief, said, 'we put out another number on the influx of North Africans into France. As a result, we received the usual letters of insults and threats; and last Monday a phone call warning us that a bomb would go off at four. We did not pay too much attention to it.'"

Portugal cancels suspension of newspapers

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Aug 4

The Portuguese press has won its first victory over the authorities since the Ad Hoc Committee was appointed in June to supervise its contents. After at least six newspapers had been fined or suspended by the commission for breaches of new press regulations...

On hearing of the suspension last Thursday, Diaria Popular, Lisbon's fourth evening newspaper, stated it would not publish and the weeklies Expresso and Sempre Fixe expressed their support for the three dailies.

Mr Palme gives a warning about detente

Pitea, Sweden, Aug 4.—Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, said today that political and social justice may be the price small nations have to pay for continued detente between the super-powers...

He told a meeting of Social Democrats here. "It would seem that the leaders of the two super powers do not mind if the easing of tensions between them is characterized by a certain conservatism." As self-appointed world peace-makers, the super powers might find it to their advantage to discourage vital social change that they feared might affect politics.

Britain and France 'can be nuclear shield'

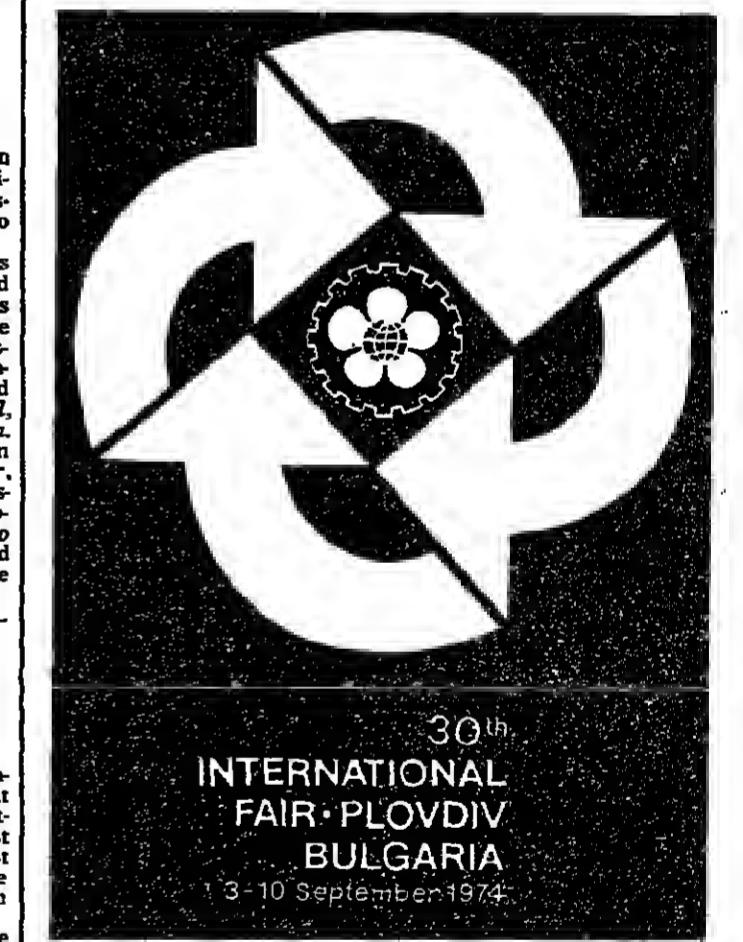
From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Aug 4

Britain and France alone can solve the problems of European nuclear defence in the case of a withdrawal of American forces, General Valentin, who has just retired from command of the French First Army in Strasbourg, writes in the monthly publication Revue de la Defense Nationale...

"It is through a coordination of their nuclear efforts, the development of their strategic nuclear forces, and cooperation in the hypothesis of the threat of their use, that they can provide a credible nuclear umbrella", the general writes.

"It is France and Britain which, on German soil, could maintain conventional forces equipped with tactical nuclear weapons, and thus help to bolster the Bundeswehr. All the European nations would obviously have to pay the price of the departure of American forces, that is to say, increase their defence effort."

A European defence system would have to dispose of strategic nuclear forces with a minimum deterrent effect. A sufficient number of conventional forces with tactical nuclear weapons, he says, would have to be stationed in West Germany.



A recognised centre of international trade the Plovdiv Fair is opening its gates for the 30th time.

Over 40 countries and hundreds of companies participate each year on an exhibition area of 165,000 sq. m.

The Plovdiv Fair reflects the increased economic potential and export possibilities of the country, the development of Bulgaria's engineering, heavy industry, electronics, chemistry and other branches of the economy.

WELCOME TO The 30th Jubilee International Plovdiv Fair 3-10 September 1974

Information: Plovdiv Fair Administration Cable: Panaira Plovdiv Telex: 04432 PARTET Bg Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Cable: Torgpalata Sofia Telex: 022374

OVERSEAS

Greeks and Turks both threaten to boycott next round of peace conference in Geneva

Athens, Aug 4.—President Clerides of Cyprus discussed the situation on the island and the next round of the Geneva peace conference with the Greek Government today.

He met Mr Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, and then had talks with Mr Mavros, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Averoff, the Defence Minister.

Afterwards, Mr Mavros told reporters it was still not certain that Greece would attend the Geneva conference due to resume on Tuesday.



Ladies with lamps: The first two women coal miners in Illinois, Annette Brantley, aged 24, left, and Jeanie Beeman, aged 26, ride the elevator down to the coal face in Pawnee.

King Husain meeting is denied by Mrs Meir

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv, Aug 4.—Mrs Golda Meir, the former Prime Minister of Israel, tonight denied an American television report that she had consented to a meeting with King Husain of Jordan.

Move to end US embargo of Cuba

From Fred Emery Washington, Aug 4.—A renewed attempt to make Congress end the 12-year trade embargo on Cuba was announced at the weekend by Senator William Fulbright.

Since the old American policy has failed, there has to be a change, he insists. Only the "impression", he reports discreetly, was given by leading Cubans that they would welcome a change in relations with the United States.

per capita gross national product in Latin America, with the possible exception of Venezuela. He notes the claim that it was about equivalent to \$1,587 (£660) per capita.

Cyprus stories of mass killings

Continued from page 1. However, an officer intervened on his behalf, wiped his face and embraced him.

She said that for the next few days the women were moved to a Turkish held area near by and returned at night.

A woman, aged 20, who refused to be identified, said she was raped after seeing her fiancé machine-gunned with other men in her village.

Hostile tone of Western broadcasts alleged by Russians to be a reason for restrictions

From Edmund Stevens Moscow, Aug 4.—A recurring Soviet argument against lifting restrictions on the exchange of ideas and information is that Russian language broadcasts to the Soviet Union by Western radio stations have a consistently hostile slant.

menistan, is less inclined to pull its punches because of détente.

the October Revolution on domestic peoples and the establishment of socialism as a world order.

Faisal pledge to Egyptians after naval manoeuvres

Cairo, Aug 4.—President Sadat and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia today watched naval manoeuvres off Alexandria.

Cholera deaths swell flood toll in Bangladesh

Dacca, August 4.—The authorities here reported 119 more deaths in the course of the day, making the death toll 517 on the forty-ninth day of massive flooding in Bangladesh.

Dispute on London flights cripples Air India

From Michael Horoshy Delhi, Aug 4.—Air India, the Indian international and domestic airline, was crippled over the weekend by a management-ordered lock-out of more than 200 pilots.

Tony Miles off to good start in world chess

Manila, Aug 4.—Tony Miles of Britain and Adam Kuligowski of Poland both scored impressive victories in the opening round of the World Junior Chess Championship in Manila today.

Vorster threat to press forces self-control plan

From Our Correspondent Cape Town, Aug 4.—The Newspaper Press Union, the association of newspaper proprietors, has shocked and dismayed South African journalists by proposing strong self-disciplinary measures in an attempt to stave off legislation to amend the constitution of the Press Council.

S African churches anger Government

From Our Correspondent Cape Town, Aug 4.—A confrontation is threatening between the South African Council of Churches and the Nationalist Government because of the adoption by the council of a resolution commending conscientious objection.

Fighting flares up in new campaign by Vietcong

Saigon, Aug 4.—Widespread fighting was reported in South Vietnam today as communist forces appeared to have opened a new front, military sources said.

Jordan minister for US talks on disengagement

From Our Correspondent Amman, Aug 4.—Mr Zeid Rifai, the Prime Minister of Jordan, flew to Washington today to exchange views with Dr Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, over the disengagement of forces between Jordan and Israel.

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Handwritten Arabic text: سكرتارية الاجل

SPORT

Cricket

England selectors decide to field unchanged side against Pakistan

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
For the fourth time in succession England will field an unchanged side for the second Test match against Pakistan...

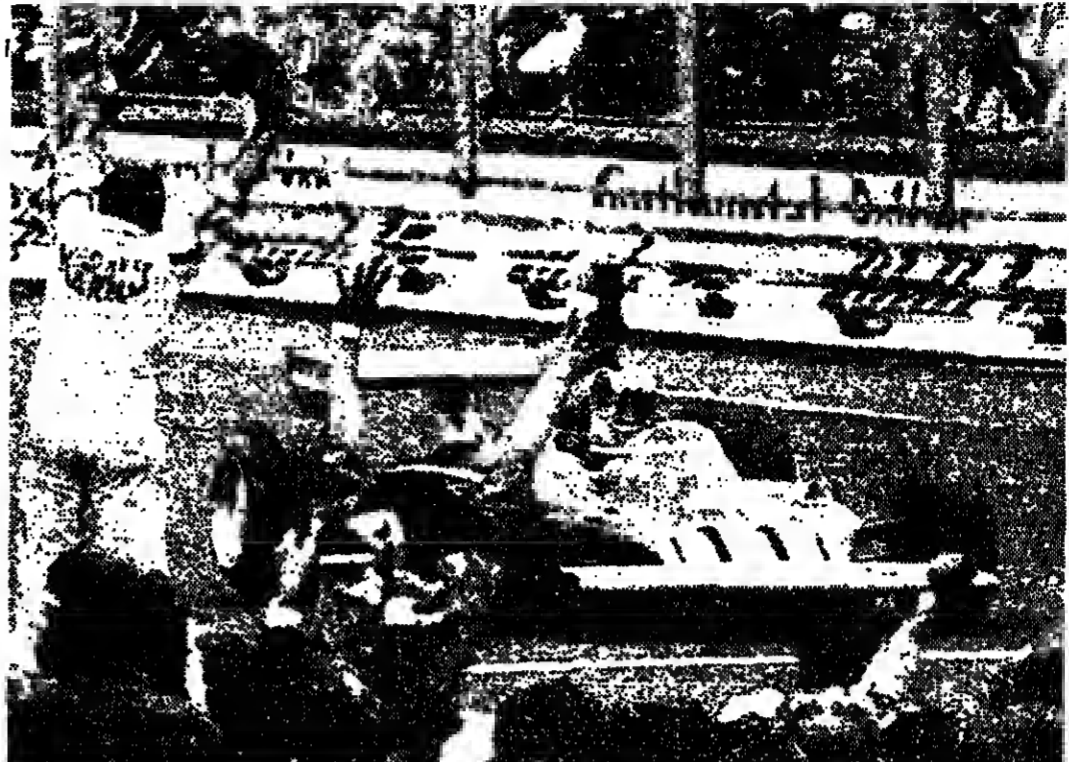
were Hutton, Simpson, May, Compton and Gavony, and in attack included Statham and Lyson, who were about to destroy Pakistan's well-ordered defence...

Motor racing

Hailwood hurt: Regazzoni triumphs

From John Blunsden
Nurburgring, Aug 4

Mike Hailwood had to be cut out of his car here this afternoon after he had crashed heavily on the thirteenth lap of the German Grand Prix...



Regazzoni, driving a Ferrari, crosses the line yesterday to win the German Grand Prix.

accident, both Denis Hulme and Emerson Fittipaldi were virtually out of the race from the start. Hulme's car broke down and he started from the second row...

Tom Pryce, who was considerably delayed by the start line confusion, found himself down in 15th place with his UOP Shadow on the first lap...

his March 741, to take the applause for the first German driver to finish. But it was a near thing...

Rain abandonments help Leicestershire

Leicestershire's fine run of 10 wins, which had taken them to a commanding position in the John Player League, came to an end at Leyton yesterday...

Leicestershire, with three games to play, have 45 points. Kent and Essex, with four games left, have five and four points each, respectively...

Sussex v Northants

Table with columns for batsmen and bowlers, showing runs, wickets, and overs for Sussex and Northants.

Yorkshire v Notts

Table with columns for batsmen and bowlers, showing runs, wickets, and overs for Yorkshire and Notts.

John Player League

Table showing league standings for various teams, including Leicestershire, Kent, and Essex.

No play yesterday

LORDS: Middlesex v Kent. LEYTON: Essex v Leicestershire. CHILTERNHAM: Gloucestershire v Worcestershire.

Yachting

First success for More Opposition

By John Nicholls
Tony Morgan's new boat, More Opposition, won her first race in class one of the IOR events at Cowes yesterday...

Saturday's results

DARINGS (Barlow Cup): J. Jones (1), G. Green (2), S. Southern (3), D. Barlow (4), R. Kitchin (5), J. H. Kitchin (6).

Fleet of 91 for world Wayfarer event

A fleet of 91 has assembled at Walsingham Island Sailing Club for the national and world championships for Wayfarer yachts...

Today's cricket

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Pakistan (11.0 to 5.30 to 6.0). LEYTON: Essex v Northants (11.0 to 6.30).

Athletics

Foster capable of 5,000 metres record

By Neil Allen
A morning run, followed by champagne at lunch, was how Brendan Foster yesterday celebrated his remarkable world 5,000 metres record at Gateshead on Saturday...

Olympic Games

Vancouver's withdrawal casts new shadow

By John Hennessy
A further shadow was cast over the bid for the Winter Olympics at the weekend, when the city of Vancouver withdrew its bid for the 1980 Games...

Tennis

Overseas juniors maturing faster than British

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Britain's junior tennis champions—players under 18 at the beginning of the year—are a peculiar breed these days...

Golf

US victory equals previous best

San Francisco, Aug 4.—The United States won their eighth consecutive Curtis Cup yesterday when they took five of the six singles matches to defeat a team representing Britain and Ireland...

The margin of victory equaled the most decisive previous triumph achieved in the Curtis Cup by the United States in 1966. It was the 14th victory for the United States in the competition which began in 1932...

Intrepid leads all the way

Newport, Rhode Island, Aug 3.—Intrepid defeated Courageous and Valiant to win a race involving three of the United States 12-metre yachts in the running for the defence of the America's Cup...

Oosterhuis goes down to Owen in play-off

Krefeld, Aug 4.—Simon Owen, of the New Zealand Open Golf team, won a sudden-death play-off today after a sudden-death play-off with Peter Oosterhuis of Britain...

Jenkins equals record set by brother

By Neil Allen
Roger Jenkins, with a time of 47.3sec, equalled the 400 metres championship record of his brother, David, holder of the European title in the AAA under 20 championships at Crystal Palace yesterday...

Speedway

FREDERICIA (Denmark): British-American Nordic speedway championship. Fredricka (Denmark) 15 pts; 5.5. Gullerup (Denmark) 10 pts; 5.5. Gullerup (Denmark) 10 pts; 5.5. Gullerup (Denmark) 10 pts; 5.5.

Squash rackets

JOHANNESBURG: South African amateur championships. P. Ayton (GB) 3-0; 10-7. M. Maloney (GB) 3-0; 10-7. M. Maloney (GB) 3-0; 10-7.

Road walking

HACKNEY: European Games 200 mile. G. D. Firth (Ireland) 10:58. G. D. Firth (Ireland) 10:58. G. D. Firth (Ireland) 10:58.

Rugby Union

SALISBURY: Schoolboys Schools Cup. Salisbury Schoolboys 30-0. Salisbury Schoolboys 30-0. Salisbury Schoolboys 30-0.

Fourosomes

Mrs A. Sander and Mrs J. Booth beat Mrs M. McKenna and Mrs M. Walker 5-3 in a four-players event at the British Isles Ladies' Golf Association championships...

SPORT

Racing

Ribecourt has no respect for elders

From Pierre Guillot French Racing Correspondent
Deauville. A three-year-old monopolized the finish of the Prix Germain...

and started well out in the centre of the course.
Saint-Martin soon settled her in the middle, while Paddy's Princess on the rails made the running from Illyrie and Peace and Concorde...

Hills's journey should be doubly rewarded

By Jim Snow
It is not easy to say whether the highest honours last week went to man or horse. To Lester Piggott...



Barry Hills: double in prospect.

The one Royal Manacle may have to fear in another challenger from the south...

Show Jumping Successful end for Broome on Philco

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris
David Broome may have lost his world show jumping championship...

Folkestone programme

Table of race results for Folkestone programme, including Woodchurch Handicap, Shadoxhurst Handicap, and others.

Bath programme

Table of race results for Bath programme, including Saltford Stakes, Evershoft Plate, and others.

Newton Abbot programme

Table of race results for Newton Abbot programme, including Chagford Steeplechase, South Zeal Hurdle, and others.

Market Rasen programme

Table of race results for Market Rasen programme, including Kesteven Hurdle, Trent Steeplechase, and others.

Folkestone selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.25 Kingsclere, 1.54 Daniel, 2.25 Great St Bernard, 2.55, Woovyn, 3.25 Plover...

Bath selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Doubleflow, 2.45 Alcyon, 3.15 Prince Gourmet, 3.45 Hopedul Quaker...

Newton Abbot selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.30 Sir Peter Hapsbury, 3.0 Tan Lass, 3.30 Hu Parrot...

Market Rasen selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.45 Gay Coma, 3.15 Royal Chic, 3.45 Bugle Boy, 4.15 Rusty Lane...

Ripon programme

Table of race results for Ripon programme, including Winkley Plate, Burnstone Plate, and others.

Ripon selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Marconi, 2.45 Star in the North, 3.15 Royal Manacle...

Saturday's results at six meetings

Summary of race results from six meetings: Goodwood, Newmarket, Market Rasen, Windsor, Newton Abbot, and Thirsk.

Rowing

Wallingford fail to hold off East German counter-attack

From Jim Reilton
The British team competing here in the fifth world junior rowing championships just fell short of the overall result expected from them...

premier event—the eights. It was a memorable championship, again of exceptional standard with many of these juniors likely to find their places in their respective national teams in the Olympic regatta in Montreal, 1976. Results:

For the record

Table of sports records, including Football results, Rugby League, Cycling, and Modern pentathlon.

Tennis

ALBERTVILLE: Amm. championships. RALDI, beat Major 6-1, Hilton 6-2...

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 4, Pittsburgh Pirates 3, San Francisco Giants 4, Philadelphia Phillies 3...

COWES WEEK

a Special Report

The rich sail on despite sinking pound

by Basil Boothroyd

We have our bad dreams. One of mine is that a rich friend invites me down for Cowes Week, and at too short notice to read up on my bilge keels and clump blocks.

Is one, should the worst happen, invited "down"? It could be "up". "Out", even, though that grimly suggests actually setting foot on a boat. In a boat. If boat is right. See how easily one could look an ignorant fool in those specialist circles.

Given time, I suppose I could grab a crash course from my *Sailing for All*. The book is a yellowing relic of my only active brush with sail, and is still worth blowing a dead spider out of, if only to be reminded that "garboard seams are often attacked by gribble", and that you can cripple a left-handed rope by coiling it right-handed.

There are delightfully arcane diagrams, captioned "Cringie" or "Vang". My favourite is called "A Simple Horse", and I could have gone with one of these, plus towing harness, when my brush ended in a mud-bound Broad, on the second day of an intended seven, without even having got the sail up. Water in the outboard, and out the simplest of horses in sight.

You will have guessed that a horse means something different in the watery lexicon, whether other animals (hounds, cats, turtles), parts of the body (legs, knees, helms), or the rest of the mystic miscellany (crooks, fiddles, crutches, flukes, nippers).

It will also be obvious that even with the Norfolk Broads behind me, though not far enough, I am in no position to hanker with members of the Royal Yacht Squadron. Even to the homelier reaches of my

manual, where a week's shipboard menus are set out, there is little for confidence. Thursday's supper commends bloater fritters. Their very mention could crack Cowes Castle clean down the front.

My earliest yachting association was with Sir Thomas Lipton, the distinguished grocer who kept failing to win the America's Cup, but was seen everywhere all the same in a white-topped cap and marching trousers, an ideal costume for battling against the elements and one later taken up by all the best peep-going people, including Edward VII, Wilhelm II and, for all I know, Alfonso XIII, though I never saw him wearing it.

Not that I saw any of the others. The photographers did that. I just saw the photographs. Those of Sir Thomas are the ones I chiefly remember, and I seem to recall he also dignified my cigarette card collection, whether in the Famous Grocers or Famous Yachtsmen series I would not be sure.

When he opened his shop in our home High Street my interest was much sharpened. Though at that age I was not fully aware of society's rigid stratifications, it still seemed remarkable that he should be skilled in butter-pasting as well as yachtmanship.

And how did he get around so fast? There he was yesterday in the *Sunday Pictorial*, wide-eyed in the Solent at a kicking wheel; today, Monday, this quick change to a bib apron, cutting cheese with string and telling my mother that it felt like a storm. (Well, he would know.)

I fancy in the end she must have got tired of explaining that although it said Lipton over the shop, this was not Sir Thomas in person who gave me a pat on the head and my own little parcel to carry, tied on top



The world's most important sailing event gets under way.

with a running bowline or finger loop. If I had known what I know now, from my *Sailing for All*, that cheese, parcelling and aprons are all parts of yachty speech—also counters, which if long must be stored up to prevent sagging—I might have answered back a good deal more. She did not know her lock.

However, she was used to these romantic assumptions. There was Becket the ironmonger. Until he was knocked out by Carpeotier in the first round I'd always drag her in there rather than into a competitor's shop. The local bicycle factor was called Sutcliffe, with a centre parting—exciting to buy my valve rubbers from the men who kept hitting the Australians for six. I can imagine her apprehensions when a sorted craft said to be racing us. He may not have looked much like my cigarette card of the same title (Famous English Swimmers) but nothing blurs out the individuality like a uniform.

wind, they may jill, reach, hike, drudge, pinch, ghost, sue, fish, swig down, gripe up, fall off, end lots of other things that don't mean what you'd expect. But becalmed, they ooch.)

I do not ask if higher, etc. above, in any navigational sense. It is just that one wonders how much longer, with the halcyon of payments gripping up, the pound falling off (with consequent drudging and pinching), and we laud lubbers lying all aback with choked luffs and cheque-books carried away—ooe wonders what the future holds for Cowes Week, the Royal Yacht Squadron and what is generally agreed to be the quickest way of being parted from honest dough since Astoria's argosy nose-dived off the Peloponnese.

Ooe wonders, I say. Meaning that I do. They, I imagine, do not. White-topped hats may be priced prohibitively, inferior brass a must for blazer buttons; and who can tell, lacking an armaments catalogue, what Woolwich Arsenal is asking for starting-gun ammo these days? But the rich, whether old or oow, are great survivors.

There may be small economies, but men of true wealth have always observed these—make do, perhaps, with last year's trousers; prefer to compete in the shorter races, thus keeping the gribble out of your garboards. But cutting down on actual yachts looks unlikely.

If only because, I see from a recent economic survey that should put heart into us all, the builders of yachts are at their wits' end to clear their order books. "There is a waiting-list of nine months to a year," said a worried spokesman, "on the bigger boats costing up to £120,000."

So let the rest of us put that in our wangs and cringle it. Bloater fritter, anyone?



The river Medina from 5,000ft at Cowes. On the left just above the breakwater is the hovercraft slipway and works, and at the top the new Willment Marina. Bottom right is the Groves and Guttridge marina.

Fearsome combination of erratic winds and tides

by John Young

One of the most dreadful laces imaginable to sail "om". So a local yachtsman recently described Cowes. He is exaggerating, but what he meant was that it has few of the natural advantages that you look for in a sailing centre. In a sense it owes its pre-eminence to historical accident and perhaps to royal patronage—Queen Victoria liked it and so did George V, and so does the Duke of Edinburgh.

To begin with, Cowes is an island, which complicates access. The limited space on the elderly wharves which ply to and from Southampton is heavily packed during the summer, most people have to hump their suitcases and duffels aboard and take care to miss the last boat back Sunday nights.

The town itself lacks any clear charm or architectural distinction; many of the buildings have a mean, almost pocked look, reflecting their-than-average unemployment and the scarcity of jobs outside the boatbuilding and associated industries, which in any case are not particularly renowned for generous wages. The main holiday trade is to the south coast, around Ventnor, Sandown and Shanklin, and the wily people who retire to places like Sea View and Ambrose.

Most of the regulars who sail from Cowes at weekends are members of clubs where they can stay. Elsewhere accommodation is strictly limited, and during Cowes week itself, hopelessly inadequate. So, for that matter, are restaurants and places of entertainment. The local Chamber of Commerce is hot under the collar at suggestions that hotels, pubs and restaurants exploit the situation by raising their prices excessively, but it would be difficult to advise a visitor who has not served a sharp increase in the cost of living during the season.

The four long-established clubs which are basically responsible for running Cowes week—the Royal Yacht Squadron, the Royal Corinthian, the Royal London and the Island Sailing Club—have neither the facilities nor the inclination to play host to thousands of yachtsmen, their families, friends and onlookers.

You can scarcely blame them, but the result is an atmosphere of exclusiveness which is not found at other regattas. There are cocktail parties and balls galore, the traditional extension of the season "season", but the few of a visiting French sea-racer are unlikely to

be on the receiving end. If an Argentine strolled into the Squadron and ordered—assuming he got past the guardian at the gate—a gin-and-tonic and a ham sand which he would cause near apoplexy among the members.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about Cowes, however, is that it is not particularly well endowed from the sailing point of view. Compared with the fairly sheltered, tideless bays of the mainland coast, like Torbay, Weymouth and Poole, the Solent offers a fearsome combination of erratic winds and tides.

Not only does the tide ebb and flow through both the eastern and western entrances, creating the effect of a bath being alternately filled and emptied at both ends, but the wind can and does blow in several different directions at once. I have seen two fleets of boats approaching each other from opposite directions, both groups carrying spinnakers with the wind astern.

These freak characteristics inevitably reduce the options available to helmsmen charting a course between buoys; frequently they have no choice but to play follow-my-leader along whichever shore affords the most favourable current. There is probably nowhere else in Britain where conditions

place a greater premium on local knowledge.

For all these reasons Cowes is nowadays seldom considered as a venue for important Cup. The organizing body for this new event was the Royal Ocean Racing Club, a London-based institution which, although it could scarcely be described as dynamic or radical, did manage to blow a good many of the cobwebs away.

Not everyone appreciated this new development. Many offshore enthusiasts had reservations about the choice of Cowes as the permanent base for what was to develop as the world's most important sailing event, and the local clubs were characteristically slow to respond to change. They showed little understanding of public relations, and officials appeared to regard journalists—not just the gossip columnists but the yachting press as well—as unwelcome intruders upon their privacy.

Slowly, however, things began to improve. A combined clubs committee was established to coordinate organization, until then competitors had to submit separate entry forms to each of the clubs holding regattas during Cowes Week. Computers were introduced to calculate bandicap performances and to print out results; a belated acknowledgment of the newspaper readers, but the contestants themselves should not have to wait until the following evening to see how they had fared.

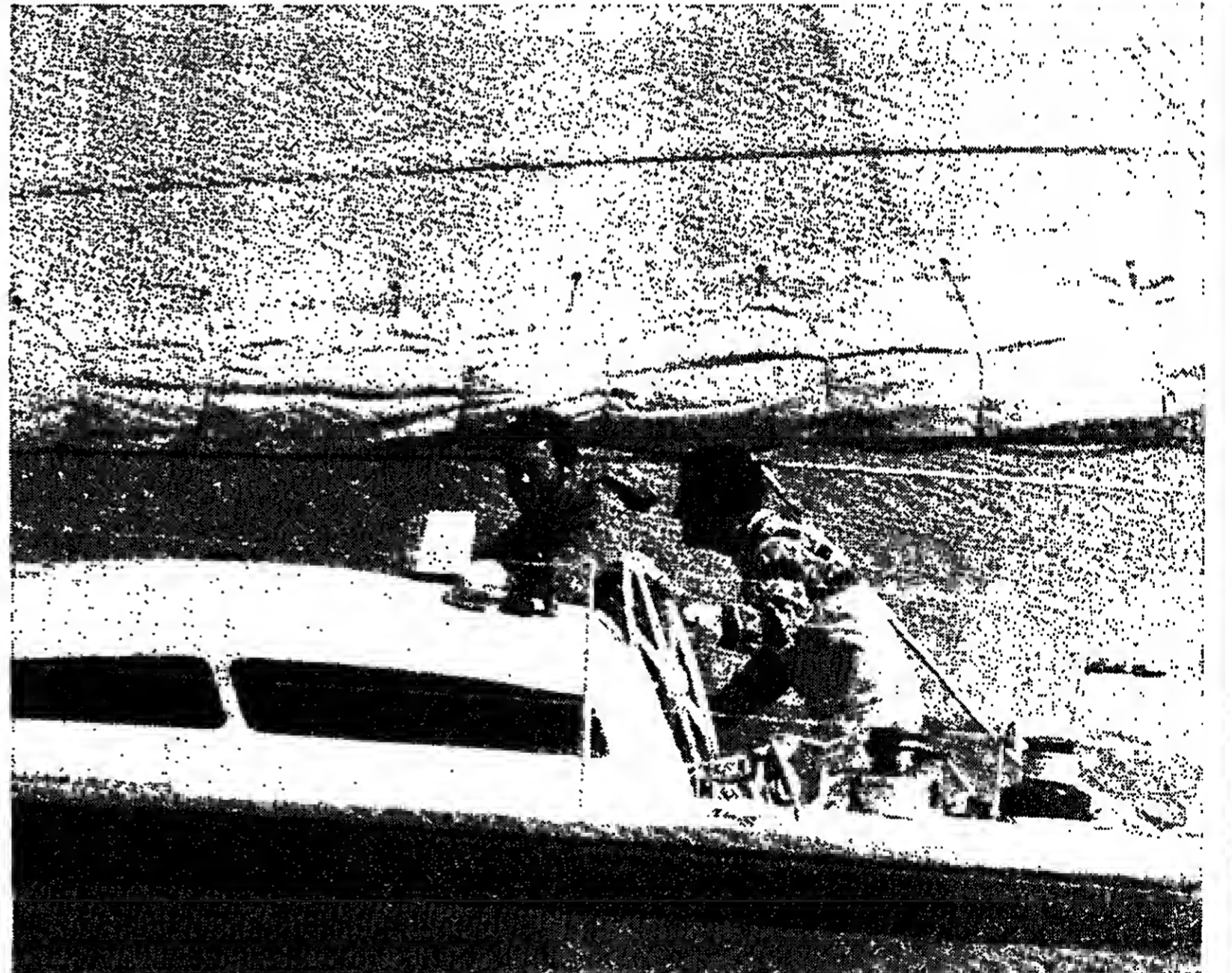
One of the most important steps was the decision two years ago to allow sponsorship from Dunhill, the tobacco company. There were mutterings from the old guard, but most people sensibly realized that financial and organizational assistance was badly needed. A motion deploring the move was put to a meeting of the Island Sailing Club and defeated heavily.

To return for the publicity Dunhill has provided extra launches and committee boats, improved communications and extra printing and catering facilities.

The shortage of moorings has been eased by the provision of three new marinas, two of them owned by local boatyards and the third by a syndicate of wealthy yachtsmen. The last of these has largely replaced the famous Trois, a series of posts at the entrance to the River Medina, where boats used to tie up alongside each other—a sociable but not always particularly convenient arrangement. The marinas have also helped to ease the shortage of accommodation by encouraging more crews to live on board their boats.

More undoubtedly needs to be done, but the question is what and how much. There are plenty of developers who would dearly love to take on the task of transforming the waterfront, but the local council has shown an understandable wariness. The property men argue that development will mean more visitors; the councillors argue that the last thing they want is to see a marquee industry, however small, replaced by luxury flats and cottages for weekend yachtsmen.

After all, it should be remembered that Cowes Week is a once-a-year event and that the local people like to keep it in perspective. Though it has its shortcomings, the organizers as a whole do not manage too badly. And, judging from the ever growing numbers who participate every year, most yachtsmen—perhaps, perhaps—rather like Cowes the way it is.



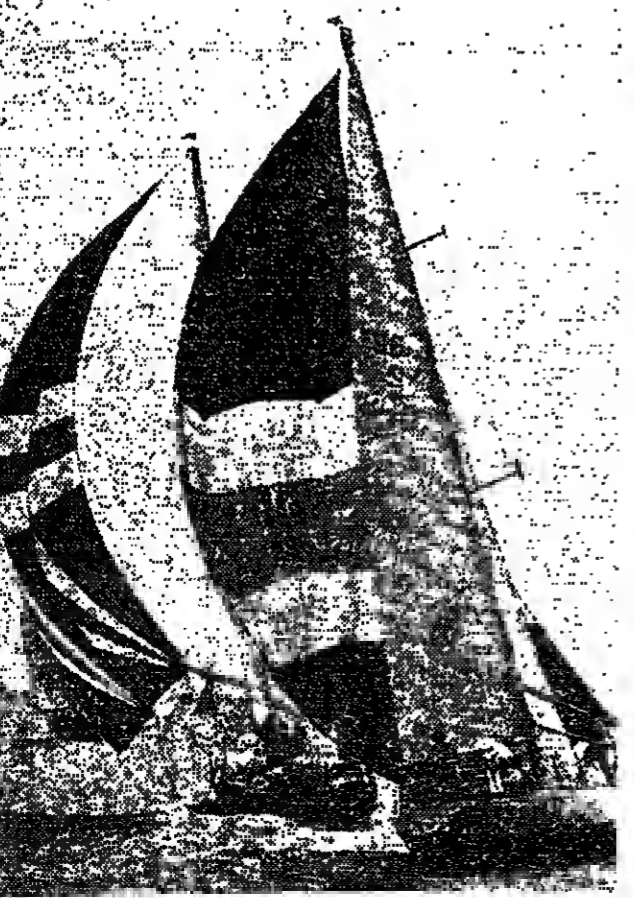
Congratulations from GRE.

We'd like to congratulate Robin Knox-Johnston and Gerry Boxall on winning the Round Britain Race, in record time. And we'd also like to thank them for bringing their catamaran in safely. Because we insured it.



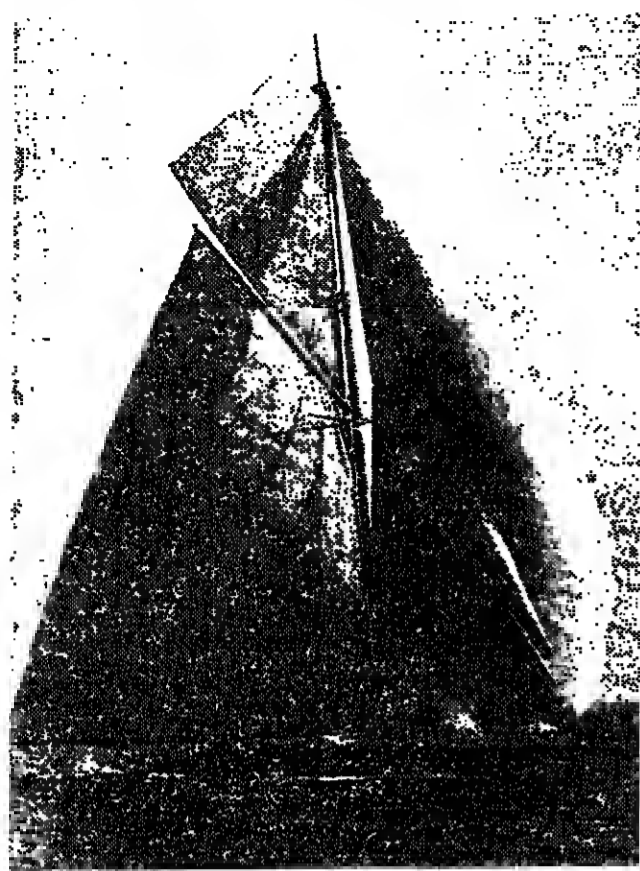
Head Office: Royal Exchange, London EC3P 3DN.

A good name to sail with.



Freakish sailing conditions limit the options available to helmsmen.

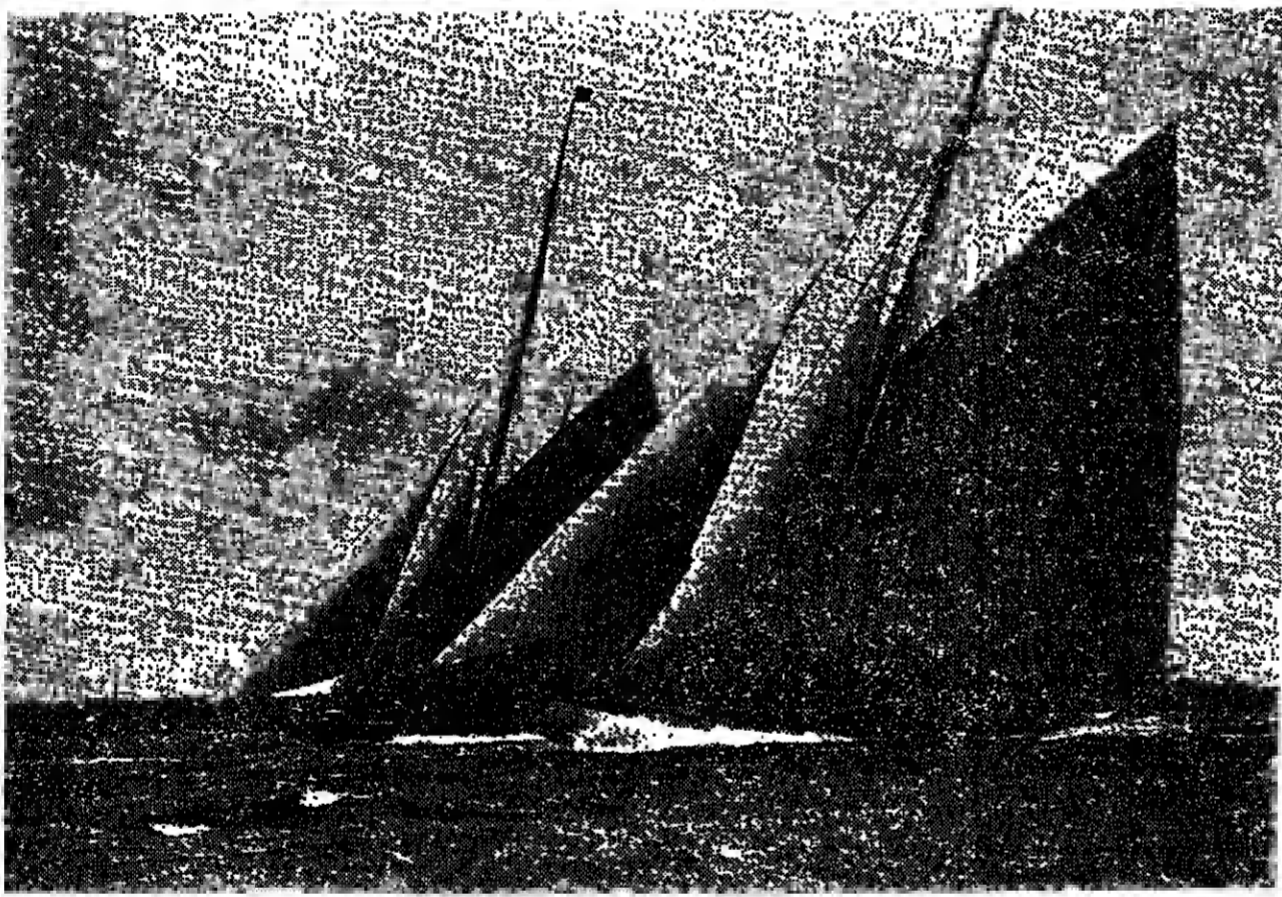
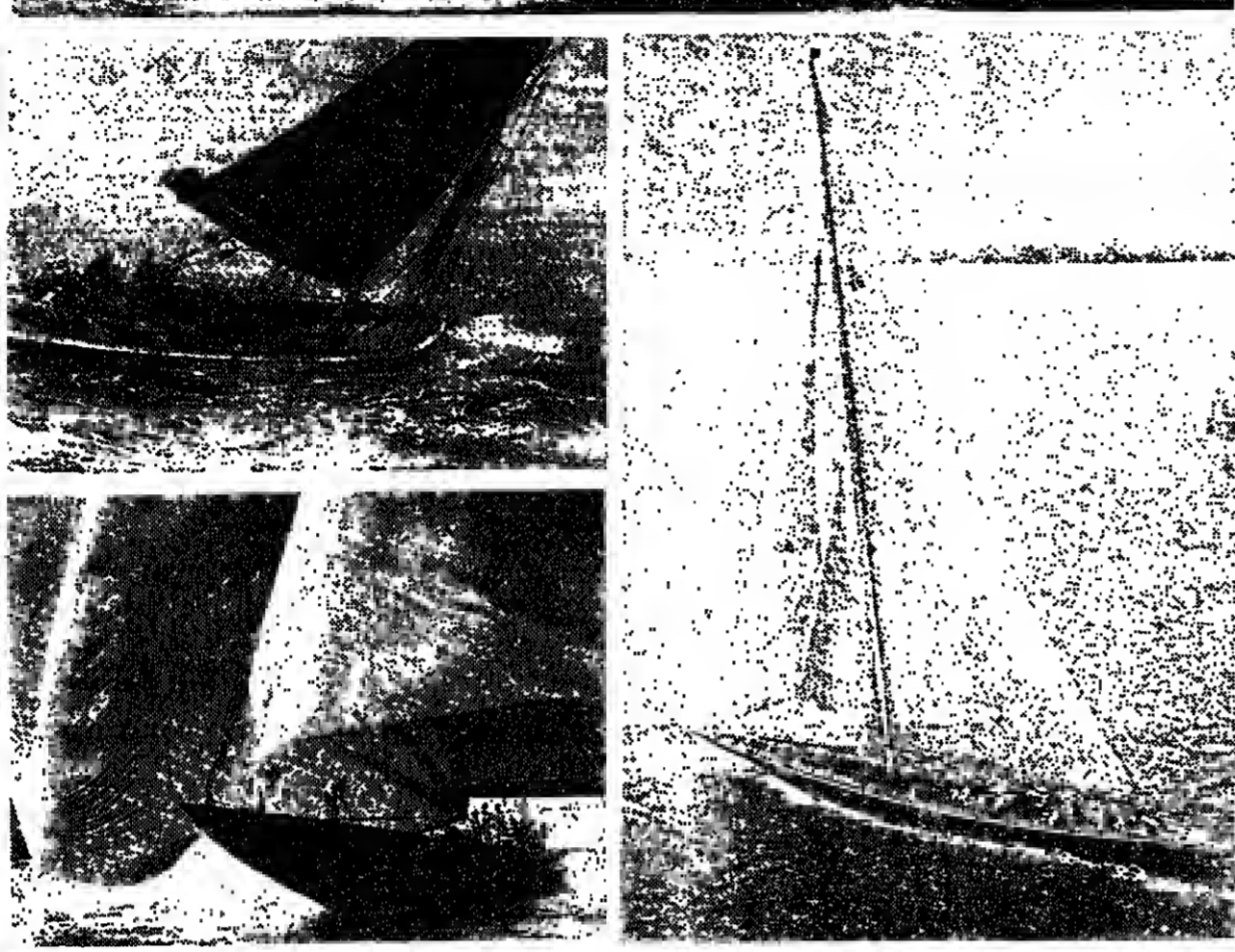
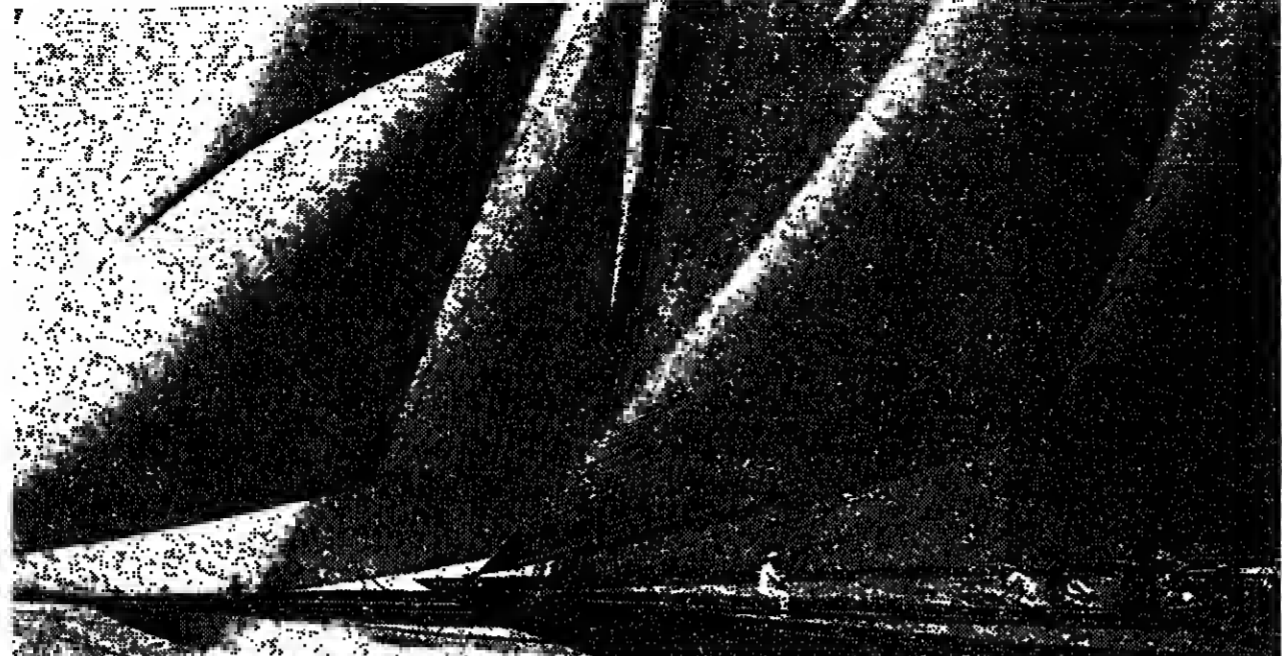
Shamrock, Yankee, Endeavour and Britannia—beautiful and vulnerable—some of the great yachts of the 1930s. Their hired crews, wearing uniforms, were a totally different concept from today's one or two man yachts



The fleets at Cowes may grow larger each year, but the boats are smaller and less spectacular. Economic and social changes have left their mark. Even the largest contemporary ocean racers cannot match the grandeur and the glamour of the towering yachts which dominated regattas between the wars.

In those days offshore racing was in its infancy. Easily the most famous races were those for the America's Cup which, although held in American waters, attracted enormous public interest. For many years the dominating personality in this event was the late Sir Thomas Lipton who commissioned no fewer than five successive challengers in an attempt to regain the elusive trophy.

Between challenges these boats, and others like them, raced regularly at Cowes. Beautiful and vulnerable, they were crewed largely by professionals and were totally different in concept from today's ocean-going racing and cruising yachts which can be and have been handled by one or two men over long distances. Lipton's Shamrock IV (above) was built just before the First World War, designed by Charles Nicholson and measuring more than 110ft overall. Due to events in Europe she was not able to match her paces against a Cup defender for another seven years. When the races eventually took place she acquitted herself nobly and was only defeated in the last race of a best-of-five series. Nine years elapsed before Lipton made his fifth and final challenge. By that time Nicholson had played a major part in the development of the Bermudan rig, which meant the replacement of the old four sided gaff mainsail by a triangular sail—an arrangement now virtually universal.



The first fruit of this change was the great J-class, of which Shamrock V (top right) was one of the earliest examples. She was even larger than her earlier namesake, nearly 120ft overall and capable of carrying more than 7,500 sq ft of sail. But she was no match for the Americans, who built no fewer than four potential defenders and eventually selected Enterprise, which won the series by four races to none. Some idea of the pace and power of these craft can be gained from the picture of Yankee (right above), one of the four American boats, which later visited Britain and took part in several regattas. Sir Thomas, one of the "father figures" of Cowes, died two years later, having finally been accepted as a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron after years of rejection. His successor as benefactor of the British cause was T.O.M. (later Sir Thomas) Sopwith who made two attempts on the Cup with the J-class Endeavour I (right) in 1934 and Endeavour II (far right) in 1937. The 1934 series was extremely close, perhaps the closest that the Americans have come before or since to losing the Cup. But the 1937 races resulted in an easy victory for the superb defender, Ranger, and that to all intents and purposes was the end of the era of the giants. When the Cup races were resumed after the Second World War, the 12-metre which took part were by comparison small fry. Although the J-boats were the star attraction at Cowes during the 1930s, they never attained the popular affection lavished upon Britannia (bottom right) built for the Prince of Wales in 1892 and probably the most famous racing yacht in history. In more than 40 years of competition she won 231 out of 624 starts. When King George V died in 1935, she was towed out into the Channel and ceremonially sent off. To many people it must have seemed an extravagant gesture, but it was in keeping with the times. J. Y.

Too expensive? You can always crew

By Hugh Somerville Yachting Correspondent, The Sunday Times. Many ask how people can afford to buy the yachts which race at Cowes in increasing numbers. A good question, although perhaps it is not appreciated that there are two distinct groups of yachts and yachtsmen racing there, particularly now that the pattern of yachting is changing fairly rapidly. The first group embraces the traditional classes of on-design racing craft, such as the Dragon, Daring, the immensely popular X class, the Solent Sunbeams and the Bembridge Redwings. The second are the classes of handicap racing yachts, varying from the smallest, of about 18ft on the waterline, to the largest offshore racers of between 40ft and 50ft, or even more. These are habitable, at least in theory, although some of the smaller, and even some of the more seriously pot-hunting bigger ones, provide only spartan accommodation. So far as the first group is concerned, the vast majority are paid for in hard cash, and in the case of the older boats, may have been bought by the owner's father, or even grandfather. Many of these boats and their crews have been coming to Cowes regatta for many years, their crews accepting fairly cheap and rough bed and breakfast, or maybe two-star hotel accommodation, at prices which might shock Claridges. These craft were the backbone of the regatta until the handicap classes started to expand rapidly about five years ago. Some of these one-design classes are severely restricted as to replacement of sails, and how many times the boat may be hauled out, so that the bottom can be scrubbed, during the season. Upkeep cost is thus kept to a minimum. Others such as the Dragon flit with the international circuit and the owners have to spend a lot of money on sails, quite apart from transport. In neither case do the owners want to burden themselves with repayment of loans on the boats, although they may find they

have to speak politely to their bank managers. The upkeep of the owner and crew tends to be the most underestimated part of yachting budgeting, particularly in a regatta like Cowes. So far as the handicap racing yachts are concerned, the problem is more complicated. Many of these craft are either standard, or the prototypes of standard production yachts. While credit restrictions were reasonably easy, many British yacht building firms went in for cruiser-racing yachts, which appealed to the professional man of about 40 who had a family, and required a boat he could use instead of a country cottage. He could, if so inclined, use it for the occasional, or even habitual, race. As a rough guide, about five years ago he could afford a mortgage on his yacht if his yacht cost about the same as his net income. He could probably spread his repayments over five years, and the finance house would lend anything up to 80 per cent of the cost of the yacht. With the gradually increasing cost of labour and materials, it sometimes happened that an owner who kept his yacht for the full mortgage period found that he sold it for a sum big enough to cover a large portion of his costs. A properly kept yacht, if well found in the first place, can be an excellent investment. Unfortunately in December, 1973, a Government led by a leading yachtman dealt a blow to the British boatbuilding industry which may be the death of many good honest boatbuilding firms. At one of two bumbling strokes a yacht was deemed to be an "item of consumer credit" on which the maximum advance was two thirds of the purchase price, and the maximum repayment period two years. As Yachting and Boating Weekly pointed out in a recent editorial: "Many people can find the one-third deposit, but finding the balance over two years—without interest—is impossible for those whose purchases would be for boats costing between the £2,500 mark and £10,000 mark, the

Cheaper electronic aids on the way

by Andrew Bray Yachting Monthly. The use of electronic navigation aids on board cruising and racing yachts has increased tremendously over the past 10 years. The first such instruments used were the echo sounder and electronic distance logs and both of these are in common use today. The amount of electronic equipment carried by a modern yacht depends very much on the type of sailing she will be doing and, to a large extent, the depth of the owner's pocket. A yacht putting to sea for passages of moderate length can manage to a reasonable degree of accuracy by means of dead reckoning with no more than a compass and a distance log, not a far cry from early Viking navigators and their lodestones. Today's racing yacht, such as the participating in Cowes Week, will carry a considerable amount of specialized electronics to provide the navigator and tactician with important information to help them to make the right decisions. Keelboats are generally larger, more cumbersome, more difficult and expensive to maintain and usually need moorings afloat which, at any rate in the South of England, are not always easy to find. At the cheaper end of the scale the small family cruisers are not prohibitively expensive, but they are not designed to appeal to the racing enthusiast and so do not frequently appear at regattas; they are the saloon cars of the sailing world. Once you move into offshore racing, you are starting to burn money. Constant research and development on the part of designers mean that boats rapidly become outdated and, with a few notable exceptions, too slow to compete with any chance of success. On top of that, owners are faced with extensive bills for wear-and-tear maintenance and replacement of equipment—it is not unknown for a big ocean racer in a tough race to lose three or four spinnakers each costing several hundred pounds. There are also crew expenses. You would be quite mistaken to suppose that all these funny-looking men in yellow oilskins are property speculators or asset strippers. As a general rule expenses are all paid by the owner; professional crews are nowadays virtually an extinct species and expressly forbidden in most forms of racing, but even amateurs need to eat and drink. In between the offshore racers and the mass-produced dinghies are the inshore keelboat classes, and these are in a sense what Cowes Week is all about. They are the solid durable centre of the sailing world, a relic of the days when boats were built of real wood and had proper keels and none of that plastic centreboard nonsense. One or two designs, like the Dragon, have attained wide international popularity; others have never been recognized outside their own immediate locality. The yacht electronic market is not large enough to warrant the expense of developing new equipment for yachts alone, so much of the equipment being produced for yachts is scaled down big ship gear, for example yacht radar and auto pilots. Companies such as Decca and EMI produce yacht radar sets which can cost from £600 to £2,000, but because of the size and weight of the units, particularly the scanner, they are being used only on larger yachts. The scanner has to be large to obtain a reasonable range and target discrimination, but it seems likely that new yacht radars will use lightweight scanners. Baron Astor's subsidiary of the Rank Organisation, is developing a low-cost, lightweight radar set which should sell for little over £500. Another field where developments are taking place is in the use of loop range hyperbolic radio navigational systems—such things as Decca, Loran and the more recent Omega. The Decca Navigator is used extensively in Britain by commercial vessels—from fishing boats to oil rigs for relocating drilling sites. Decca is the most accurate of the three but its range is limited to 200 miles so is of little use to yachts. Omega, like Loran and Decca, is a hyperbolic radioposition finding system. Unlike the others it makes use of very low frequencies to give extremely long range. Omega stations transmit information in a precisely coordinated time sequence so there is a phase difference between the signals which can be related to position at any location in the coverage pattern. Omega receivers are expensive, for example the Omega Micco unit sold by Telesonic Marine in Britain costs £2,000, but there seem little doubt that for large yachts a covering long distance itself and when Omega chain is complete, will be widely used by yachts. Coming down the scale a bit in terms of cost, Brookes & Gatehouse has developed an ingenious dead reckoning computer, the Hadrian (signal not allowed for racing), which functions in conjunction with their Harrier Loran and Heron electronic compass. Information on speed, steered and distance sailed is fed into this automatic computer and it provides a readout of a dial of how far the yacht is off her preset dead reckoning course, whether through the scanner's lens or by sailing to windward. Aids calculations have to be estimated separately. It is not possible to foresee whether there will be any radical developments in yacht electronics over the next few years. Perhaps the best guide is to look at equipment in use on large ships. In years to come one may well see a link in one's autopilot to the satellite communication/navigation network and let the sextant rust.

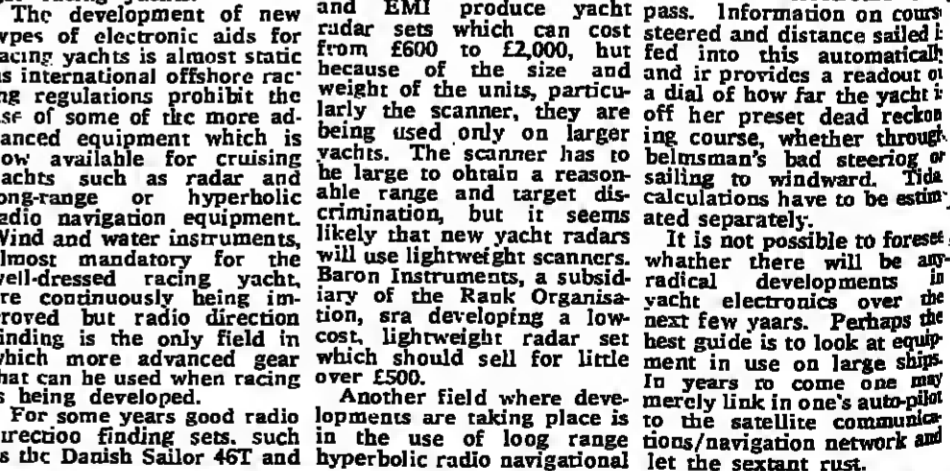
Archaic glamour lingers on—but the sport is truly serious

by John Young. There is a section of the Cowes yachting fraternity that lends itself to parody, even ridicule. "Why is it," a colleague on The Guardian asked some years ago, as we sat on the roof of the Globe hotel drinking martinis, "that people here preface every remark with the words, 'Well now, look heah'?" "Elderly claret-faced men dressed as prep-school boys," was how another journalist more recently described the stalwarts of Henley. Cowes has its equivalent. They are the sort of people who seem to have no existence outside this peculiar little town at this particular time of year; you might almost believe that they are retired or out-of-work actors, engaged for a one-week performance for the benefit of the tourists. The same might be said for the girls, impossibly haughty yet somehow vulnerable in their platform shoes and hopelessly unnautical stretch slacks, surreptitiously alert for the photographer who could bring them transitory glory in a Fleet Street gossip column. But these people are not the essence of Cowes Week. They are part of the harmless periphery that invests all the great English seasonal sporting occasions with an archaic glamour. The spirit of Cola Porter survives; the wealthy and the beautiful people still wend their way from Ascot to Henley to Wimbledon to Cowes and destinations beyond (what ever did debate on the Glorious Twelfth?) The yachters are there to be seen and heard, the non-yachters to watch and listen and be suitably impressed. For all its pretensions the annual Combined Clubs regatta is a serious sporting occasion. The fact that it is the excuse for a prolonged party does not mean that sailing is simply a means of



dispelling a hangover before getting back to the important business at the bar. Many of the more dedicated participants take little or no part in the after-hours festivities; this is particularly true every second year when the Admiral's Cup teams gather from as far afield as Argentina and Australia for what is in effect the world championship of offshore racing—a gruelling exhausting sport that demands a high degree of fitness, courage, skill and training, and is emphatically not for the faint-hearted or those with queasy stomachs. Important venue for keelboats. Conventional wisdom holds that it was the ignition of the Admiral's Cup that revitalized the flagging fortunes of Cowes Week and prevented it from declining into just another parochial regatta. Be that as it may, it would still rank as far and away the most important venue for keelboats, as opposed to dinghies, in British waters. For the uninitiated this may need a little explaining. Since the end of the Second World War the great expansion in competitive sailing has been in dinghies—small, fast, lightweight craft which normally require only a two-man crew, can be stripped of mast and sails in a matter of minutes, loaded on to trailers behind ordinary family cars and conveniently parked on a strip of shingle or tarmac behind the yacht club or at home in the garage during the winter. They require little maintenance and, most important of all, are still within the means of thousands of wage and salary earners, even in this inflation-ridden days. Keelboats are generally larger, more cumbersome, more difficult and expensive to maintain and usually need moorings afloat which, at any rate in the South of England, are not always easy to find. At the cheaper end of the scale the small family cruisers are not prohibitively expensive, but they are not designed to appeal to the racing enthusiast and so do not frequently appear at regattas; they are the saloon cars of the sailing world. Once you move into offshore racing, you are starting to burn money. Constant research and development on the part of designers mean that boats rapidly become outdated and, with a few notable exceptions, too slow to compete with any chance of success. On top of that, owners are faced with extensive bills for wear-and-tear maintenance and replacement of equipment—it is not unknown for a big ocean racer in a tough race to lose three or four spinnakers each costing several hundred pounds. There are also crew expenses. You would be quite mistaken to suppose that all these funny-looking men in yellow oilskins are property speculators or asset strippers. As a general rule expenses are all paid by the owner; professional crews are nowadays virtually an extinct species and expressly forbidden in most forms of racing, but even amateurs need to eat and drink.

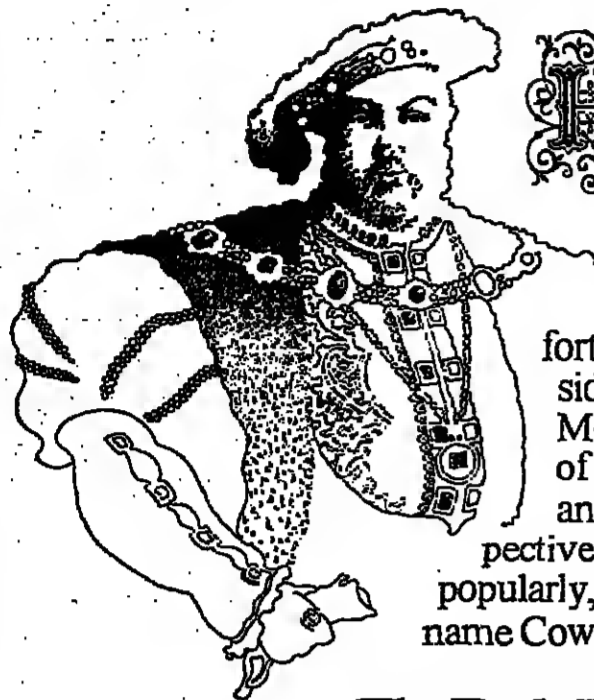
Rank Marine International congratulate Robin Knox-Johnston Gerry Boxall and British Oxygen and are proud to have contributed to their success.



Modern electronic aids like this equipment from Brookes & Gatehouse enable the ocean-racing navigator to work to a high degree of accuracy.

صكذمت اللامل

Dunhill on Cowes Week.



Henry VIII, when not carousing, had a weather eye on strategy. He built two fortresses on either side of the River Medina on the Isle of Wight, to 'cow' any foe or prospective invader. Hence, popularly, the origin of the name Cowes.

The Early Days

Because of its beauty with lush forests and rolling hills, the island attracted the nobility in their droves. The Duke of Gloucester and Princess Sophia visited the island in 1811 (hence the Gloucester Hotel). The Prince Regent patronised the local yacht club, which changed its name to the Royal Yacht Squadron.

The 'Squadron' is the most coveted club in the world, partly because its members may fly the Royal Navy's White Ensign.

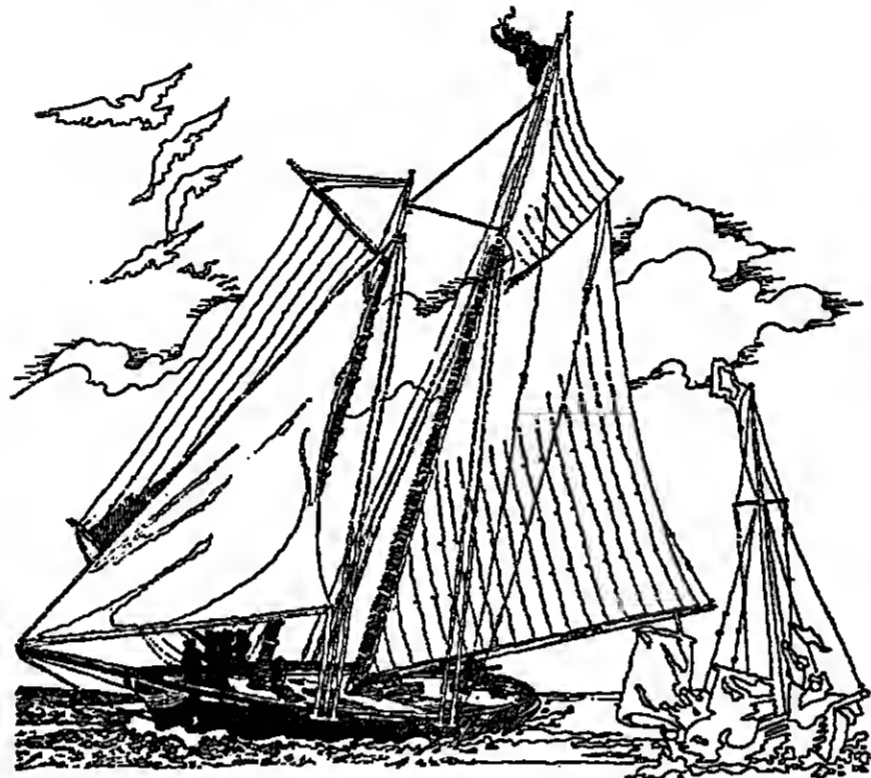
Queen Victoria, Edward VII and George V took a fancy to the place, George V racing the famous yacht 'Britannia'. Even today the Duke of Edinburgh sails from Cowes when opportunity permits.

The stronghold of the aristocrats is still the 'Squadron'. In the days when a single blackball could exclude a candidate from membership of that club, a thwarted prospective member, cursing and fuming,



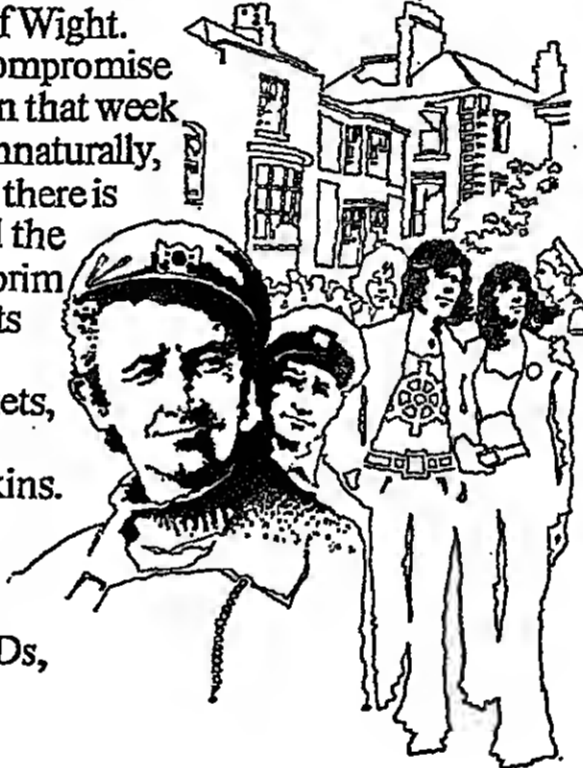
The American Invasion

Racing remained rather cosy and very British, an atmosphere to be shattered in 1851 when the American schooner 'America' sailed over from the



States and trounced the cream of the home fleet, in a race around the Isle of Wight.

Today, a true compromise still exists, best seen in that week of racing called, not unnaturally, Cowes Week. Ashore there is a heady social life and the hostilities are always brim full. The narrow streets are taken over by a brigade of dinner jackets, mingled with torn trousers and wet oilskins. Afloat, the Week is dominated by the racing of local classes of yachts—XODs, IODs, Dragons together with large and small cruiser classes.

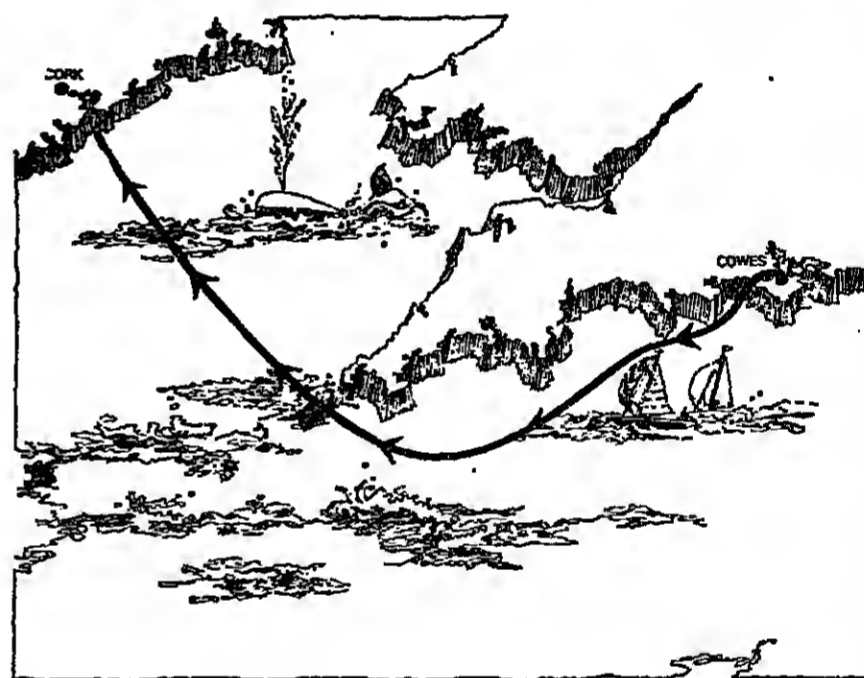


Another award presented in 1951, the New York Yacht Club Cup, will be raced for on Thursday, 8th August. This race was first won by the famous yacht 'Latifa', designed by William Fife and built in 1936.

Throughout the week, yachts of a variety of classes and divisions race intensely for a number of prizes. On Saturday, the week comes to an exciting climax with the start of a 320-mile ocean race to Cork on the south-west coast of Ireland.

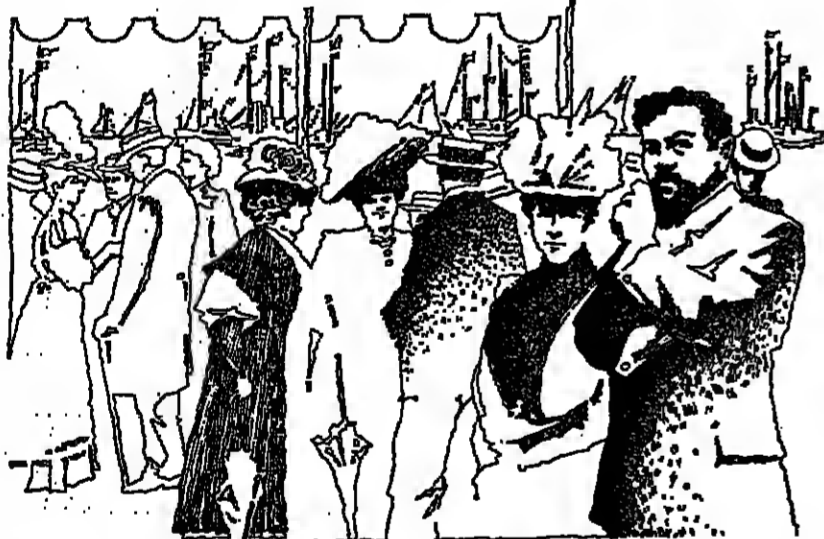
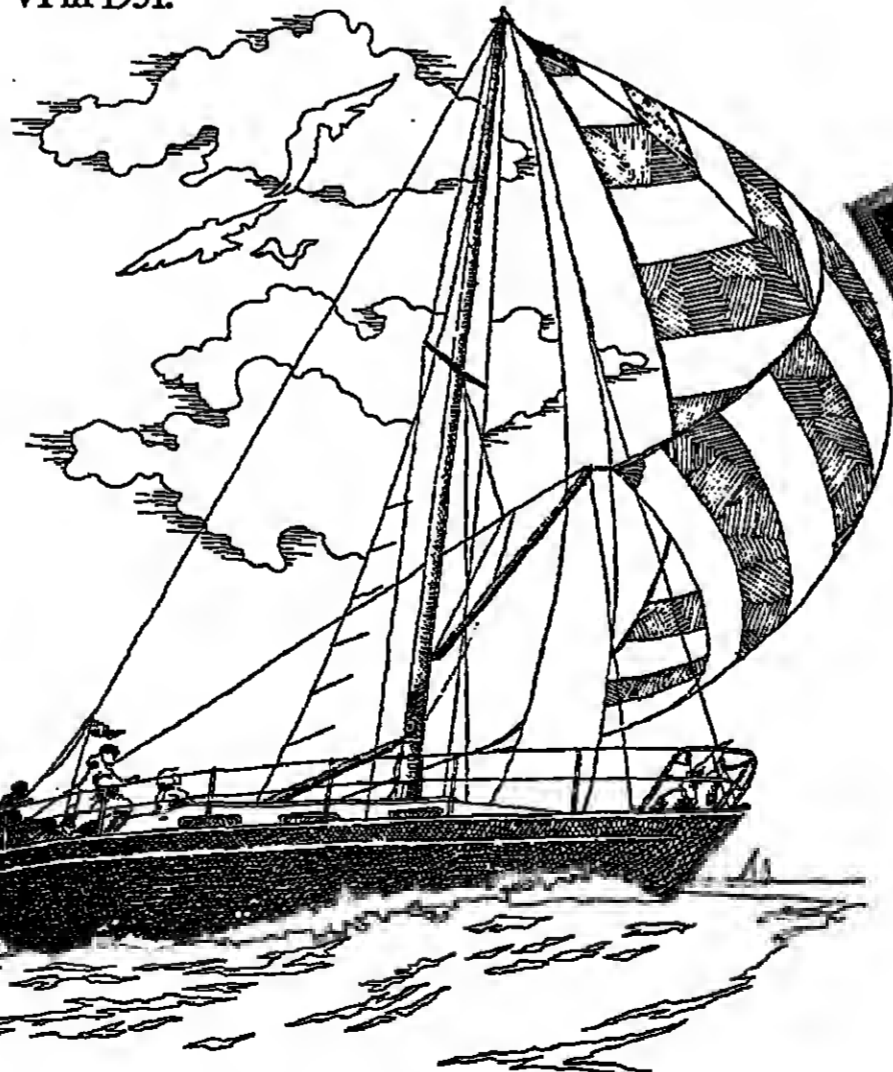
Over the years, Cowes Week has grown in popularity and this has been emphasised by an ever-increasing number of entries. In fact, the popularity of Cowes grew to such an extent that in 1972 the Cowes Combined Clubs Committee, organisers of the event, approached Alfred Dunhill Limited with a view to obtaining support for Cowes Week. Dunhill, already well-known for their support of British yachting, agreed to provide the necessary financial support, not only for the needs of regatta management, but to secure suitable premises to cope with the increased requirements of competitors and press.

Written in association with Anthony Churchill, racing enthusiast and competitor.



Cowes 1974

This year's regatta opened on Saturday with the Queen's Cup race. Tomorrow will see racing yachts with a rating of 29 feet and above competing for the Britannia Cup, a trophy presented to the Royal Yachting Association by the late King George VI in 1951.



anchored his twelve-cannon black schooner nearby and threatened a bombardment during dinner. The blackballer subsequently apologised.



Soon the fanatic yacht racing fraternity began to take notice of Cowes and to rub shoulders with Royalty, the dandies and the rich. When Joseph Weld challenged Lord Anglesey to a race, the latter declared that if he lost, he'd burn his yacht Pearl in the river.

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Dunhill support British yachting

Lord Chalfont

Could Britain be heading for a military takeover?

Not so very long ago the suggestion that there might be a military coup d'etat in Britain would have been greeted with cries of amusement and disbelief. It has for long been an almost unquestioned article of received wisdom that the traditions of parliamentary democracy in this country are too strong and the constitutional docility of the British people too deeply ingrained to permit the importation of such disgraceful foreign manifestations as "regimes of colonels or generals". Besides there has always been a comfortable, if not entirely well-founded, belief that the intellectual equipment of the officer corps is such that its members would hardly put it to walk and chew gum at the same time, much less deal with the fearful complexities among which our elected representatives would be struggling with impressive elegance and skill.

Yet only a few months ago, Mr William Buckley, an American of pronounced right-wing views but otherwise in full possession of all his faculties, called it as he considered: a military takeover; and last week a broadsheet signed by Sir Oswald Mosley, a name not characteristically British, but which has taken on a significance in the political history of these islands, contained the message that from "the prevailing pessimism and almost universal defeatism which now characterise the British scene", two dangers were emerging—continuing anarchy, or a military coup d'etat.

Some of the more imaginative propagandists of the far left have even suggested that the recent appearance of troops and armoured cars at London Airport are rehearsals for the day when the chiefs of staff are installed at No 10 Downing Street and the machine-guns appear at street corners. Although this may seem a more than usually overheated fantasy,

or by trade union leaders who openly declare that their aim is to include the total abolition of private enterprise.

Normally, in a vigorous free society, those who feel threatened by upheaval in the social order can have reasonable confidence in the ultimate power of the democratic political process. An elected Parliament and an effective government are their protection against the more extreme consequences of industrial anarchy. Today, however, the British people contemplate the spectacle of a minority government confronted indecisively by an apathetic opposition. The main heading of party political "debate" has long since ceased to be even unintentionally funny. Most intelligent people are not only sick of it, they are also appalled at its apparent

irresponsibility in the face of a grave national crisis.

The result of all this is that serious political activity is in danger of passing out of the hands of Parliament and government. Already the industrial trade unions wield enormous power; the hidden influence of the bureaucratic machine is disproportionately large; and those at the private enterprise end of the political spectrum are beginning to organise themselves to fight battles which no political party seems disposed to fight for them. Large industrial concerns are beginning to talk in terms of a coordinated defence against industrial action or wholesale nationalisation. The voice of Aims of Industry is becoming more insistent and more extreme; the National Association of Ratepayers Action Groups has announced

What equality in education means to Mr Prentice

Time is running out for the country's 175 direct grant schools if Labour wins the next election. Labour policy is to abolish the direct grant of more than £12m which pays for nearly half of the schools' costs. This was confirmed by Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in an interview with *The Times* on the last day of the Parliamentary term.

He said: "The future of direct grant schools will now be considered in the reasonably near future. The exact timing is something I cannot foresee. But it may not be necessary to wait all that long before we have a more definite policy on what we intend to do."

Previous statements by Mr Prentice had indicated that those grammar schools, which are financed by the central Government and local authorities in return for providing a proportion of their places free to state pupils, were safe for several years.

The last Labour election manifesto contained no reference to direct grant schools. An omission which Mr Prentice indicated would be put right in the next one. Nor did Mr Prentice rule out the possibility that a new Labour Government would insure local authorities not to take up places at these schools. At present local authorities pay about £12.6m a year in direct grant fees.

Mr Prentice also took the opportunity in the interview to give the Labour counterblast to the Conservatives, who have already decided to make education along with housing the main issues in the next election.

He accused Mr Norman St John-Stevas, recently appointed Opposition spokesman on education, of making a phoney election bid based on promises of parental choice; of stirring up a myth about monster comprehensive schools; of perpetuating uncertainty in secondary reorganization against the general consensus of educational opinion; of encouraging local authorities to defy the will of Parliament.

He said: "Education will be one of the main issues in the election firstly because public interest in the quality of education is rising all down the country. Secondly because the Conservative party have chosen to make a political issue of parental choice which I regret."

"During the few months that Bill Van Straubenzee was Opposition spokesman for education, he and I had some differences of emphasis, but we had no clash of principle. It is Mr Heath who has deliberately chosen to appoint a more abrasive spokesman and identified education as an election issue with all the emphasis on parental choice."

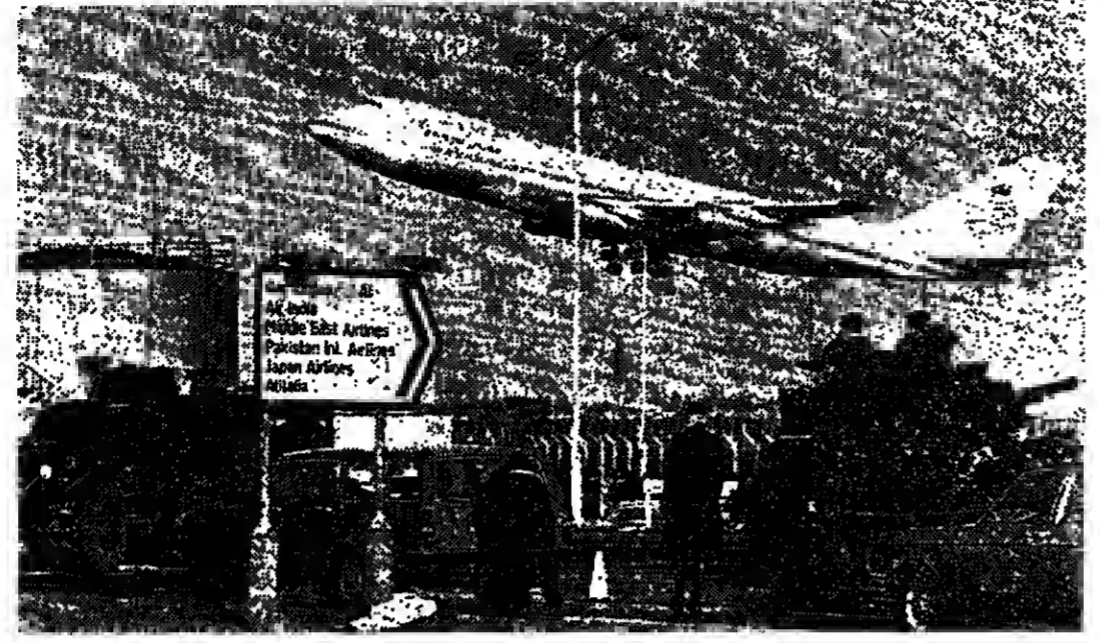
"The Conservatives are making a phoney bid with these promises. Parental choice has never existed in practice. What in fact it has traditionally meant is that four out of five parents have the choice of either sending their children to local secondary moderns or going to a school failing to send their children to school. The other fifth have a choice of whether to accept a place for their child at a grammar school."

He went on: "There has never been a wide choice except for parents who are able to provide for their children. I am concerned with the extension of choice to individual pupils in consultation with their parents. We believe that a comprehensive system will provide a wide range of choice for them."

"I intend personally to see that comprehensive education becomes an election issue. I intend to stump the country during the election making the case for it."

"I can promise the people that I can fight very hard for greater resources for education. What I cannot and will not promise is how much will be spent on education. I shall be offering no bribes during the election. On school milk, I would prefer to see it provided free for all primary school children. (Only the five to seven-year-olds get it.) The Government is looking at the matter under consideration. I am not prepared to announce a decision at this stage."

"I am not going to over-promise, to make guarantees which cannot reasonably be



Armoured cars at Heathrow: A rehearsal for a coup?

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The choice is a wage freeze or an early election

Being the sequel to the draft memorandum I prepared for Mr Healey, but which he did not circulate to his colleagues. I do not like to use the words "I told you so", but I must say I am sorely tempted. Before my mini-budget proposals I asked for your collective wisdom, upon which I acted, and what has been the result? A total flop. The gloom and despondency have gut worse.

But after all, this should not have been unexpected. If you ask a silly question, you get a silly answer, and I must admit that expecting the collective wisdom of colleagues ranging in views from Roy Jenkins to Tony Benn, is asking the impossible.

What you said to me in effect was this: "You have got to square the circle. You must produce proposals that expand demand, boost employment and investment, and prepare the way for the election, but, at the same time, you must do nothing to undermine foreign confidence in sterling, or do anything more to frighten off the middle voters (whom even then Roy was planning to woo on our behalf)". The result was only what I suppose we should have expected. Investment looks no better; the Stock Exchange has fallen even further, and despite what Ian Mikardo and Eric Heffer may say, we still depend on our lives on a mixed economy, and you cannot expect a healthy private sector producing jobs and exports, if you deal a devastating blow to the traditional source of corporate finance.

For the political effects, well, we may have gained something by standing Tony Crosland on his head in the matter of rates, and pretending that we were merely anticipating the Tories, when, in fact, we were correcting ourselves. But the main dramatic move, the reduction of VAT from 10 to 8 per cent, has been a total disaster. It is not after all surprising that we got little thanks from the consumer, for taking £1.50 off a £70 refrigerator. It takes a lot more than

There really is no evidence as yet that the social contract is going to work adequately to preserve us from a winter of grave stagflation,

This to erase the memory of Tony Benn in the middle class constituencies. The only surprising thing is that sterling has held up reasonably well so far.

To sum up what I did in the mini-budget:

- (1) I gave away a lot in revenue and undertook a substantial increase in the borrowing requirement, despite the predictable howls from the monetary enthusiasts.
- (2) I tried to bolster this up as far as foreign confidence and the City is concerned, by announcing our loan from the Shah and by the relaxation of dividend control.
- (3) I claimed that the whole thing was really designed to restrain cost inflation by reducing the rate at which threshold agreements triggered off new wage increases.

I pointed out to my colleagues beforehand that (1) would have no effect on investment, and that dividend relaxation would have received with a bellow laugh,

I said that the Shah was going to invest substantially in Britain anyway, and that the terms were going to be very onerous. Meanwhile, the continued parading of the possibility of further nationalisation is hardly encouraging other holders of petrodollars or petrosterlings to follow his example (for (3), we all know perfectly well that the threshold is going to be swamped anyway by additional claims flooding in over and above it).

In the subsequent debate, when we outmanoeuvred them in parliamentary terms. But we all make the mistake of thinking that what happens in Parliament has a great influence on the public. Even when Hansard is being printed, very few people read it. The majority of the public rely for their impression of Parliament on the press, where the commentators are hardly flattering to any of us, and where what gets the highest publicity is the most raucous noise. What really counts with the public are results, and I do not see many at the moment.

We really have got to face up to it now. As I pointed out in my previous memorandum, excessive wage demands based upon the exploitation of trade union monopoly are now the overwhelming cause of inflation. The public know this perfectly well. They have only got to look at the stream of demands now appearing in the newspapers running up to fantastic percentages.

However much some of these figures may owe to the normal pre-conference posturing, the reality of them is big enough to scare the public. It certainly scares me.

There really is no evidence as yet that the social contract is going to work adequately to preserve us from a winter of the most grave stagflation. It seems to me that we have only two alternatives before us now. Either to reimpose statutory control of incomes, or indeed a wage freeze, or to cut back for an early election.

I do not ask for the collective wisdom of my colleagues on this proposition. My sense of humour is exhausted.

Reginald Maudling

The open appearance of an hotel foyer changes suddenly to the faintly sinister look of the approaches to a bank strong-room as you reach "Security" on the top floor of the Grosvenor House Hotel, where Archbishop Makarios and his personal staff are staying. Aflourishing locked doors and an ante-room with a bodyguard of three Greek Cypriot security men, I found myself looking suddenly not over Hyde Park side but side with the archbishop.

In the light of Turkish violations of the ceasefire in Cyprus, I asked him what the Government was to take. The Turkish violations, he said, put Britain, Greece and the United Nations in a difficult position. He appreciates Mr Callaghan's efforts in Geneva and London, but says that if the Turks continue to disregard warnings, the British Government, which has bases and sizable forces in Cyprus, should make clear to Turkey that it cannot accept military expansion.

Archbishop Makarios evidently wished to make an early denial himself of criticisms of his regime's treatment of prisoners published in an article in *The Times* on July 31. These were denied by a spokesman at the weekend. The archbishop really believes, he said, that the author, who had gone to Cyprus to defend members of the terrorist organisation, "EOKA B," was not unbiased.

The allegations, after careful investigation, were found to be either wholly unfounded or highly exaggerated. The archbishop admitted that some prisoners had been struck or beaten, but claimed that there was no evidence of systematic or scientific torture, and that he had stated frequently that he was strongly opposed any ill treatment.

When I asked the archbishop about his own plans, he emphasized that it was open to him to return to Cyprus at any time. His sister, who is being held in England by the RAF with other evacuees, had brought word from many friends that support for him in Cyprus was greater than ever. Even his strongest opponents saw now, he claimed, that he had always been right in saying

that union of Cyprus with Greece was not a feasible policy.

His primary concern now was not, however, his return but the shaping of the future in Cyprus. "I will return to Cyprus," he declared, "after the withdrawal of the Greek officers who are commanding the National Guard, and which carried out the coup against me." To return before their departure would, he said, stir up dissension. Clearly, Archbishop Makarios is contemplating the possibility of a long and petulant withdrawal of the Greek officers, but he said that if a just agreement were achieved at Geneva, the bitterness and divisions between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots would soon be healed.

He does not, he said, intend for the time being to go to Athens. Evidently he feels that the Greeks have many pressing problems and that his presence there would not help, but with the new Greek government his relations were, he said, "very good". In particular, he was on friendly terms with Mr Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, and with Mr George Mavros, the Foreign Minister.

Turning to the talks ahead in Geneva, he said: "Without entering into details, I would say that the Greek Cypriot side will ask for the full implementation of the July 20 United Nations Resolution." This called for a ceasefire; requested the withdrawal of foreign troops not authorized to be in Cyprus; and called on Greece, Turkey and Britain to negotiate without delay for the restoration of peace and constitutional government, while keeping the Secretary General of the United Nations informed. The Secretary General is to report on the situation as appropriate. The Resolution reinforces the right of appeal to the United Nations and the archbishop's claim to be recognized as President of Cyprus.

Archbishop Makarios said that the 1960 constitution for Cyprus should be the basis of the talks and should be considered in force until agreement is reached. It provided a single Cypriot government with safeguards for the Turkish Cypriot minority, but in practice the need for some changes

is accepted on all sides. Archbishop Makarios said he would like to see the committee which would discuss the constitution to include British, Greek, Turkish, Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot representatives.

While it would be wrong to take this Dad's Army posturing too seriously, it would be unwise to ignore it. It is worth recalling that a little more than two years ago Brigadier Frank Kitson, still a serving Army officer, was writing in a book to which the present Chief of the Defence Staff contributed a foreword:

"If a genuine and serious grievance arose, such as might result from a significant drop in the standard of living, all those who now disseminate their protest over a wide variety of causes might concentrate their efforts and produce a situation which would be beyond the power of the police to handle. Should this happen the Army would be required to restore the situation rapidly."

It is against this background that the activities of the new self-styled action groups should be assessed.

If this country is to avoid disaster and make, intelligently, the crucial choice between what Arthur Koestler has called relative freedom or absolute tyranny, it does not need, nor can it afford, the militants of the neo-Marxist left or the bulldozers of the neo-fascist right.

It needs a return to an effective parliamentary government and it needs an administration which represents and protects the interests of those—the great majority in this country—who owe allegiance to neither extreme.

Mr Roy Jenkins's recent speech did much to distil and reflect their views; but that, in itself, is not enough. The Englishman, wrote Heinrich Heine, loves liberty like his wife, and when she has been a red-outruder intruder into his bedroom, it is becoming increasingly clear that the only way of avoiding a potentially violent division in our society, with all its attendant threats to our freedom, is the voluntary resignation of the political forces of the centre.

The danger to liberty is the same whether it is the coast of the intruder that is red or his flag.

A. M. Rendel
Diplomatic Correspondent

The Times Diary

Books to get your suntan with

Here are some new titles, suitable for reading on a sunny beach, which our Literary Department unaccountably failed to include in their recent holiday reading feature:

Cooking for Dummies, by Robert Carrier. If we are really nearing the end of civilization and democratic life as we know it, what preparations do we need to make in the kitchen? Carrier's latest book, lavishly produced on cosy newspaper-style paper, is the first devoted to dishes like pâtés and preserves which can be readied in advance and stored in the cellar, for a long time, the oven, or the refrigerator, that when the coup or revolution does come, we shall all be forced to eat standard drab utility food. It therefore contains instructions for making simple gourmet dishes in secret. (Aims of Gastronomy, £37.50.)

Nodding Through, by Harold Lever MP. Memories of history

in enemy hands. (Cape, £18.)

I'm Ahmed, Ride Me, by Ahmed Ahmed. A steward on the Inter-City express from London to Birmingham writes a revealing, ribald, frank and saucy account of what British Rail stewards get up to before the first sitting at breakfast. (Ian Allen, £11.50.)

The Private Eye Book of Harold Evans, edited by Richard Ingrams. This enormous volume places between two covers all the news stories, some of them partially true, written about the former editor of *The Sunday Times* in the former satirical weekly. In a revealing preface Ingrams reveals movingly that the book's big journal carried so much news about journalists as that he always had a secret ambition to be one. A hastily printed epilogue takes the story to the recent nationalization of the press by Anthony Benn, when *Private Eye* and *The Sunday Times* were merged under the editorship of Joe Haines, the former Prime Minister. (BMSO, £17.)

Wish You Were Here, by Mike Hnare. A guide to survival on holiday. The author, an experienced traveller and military

man, advises on precautions to take on a modern holiday. Contains chapters on sunburn, smog, arms handling, stomach upsets, sun-tanning, surface wounds, how to bargain with your Capors in their local language, and prayer. (Olympic Airways, £5.50.)

Stop Me if I'm Boring You, Edward Heath. The former Prime Minister gives hints on how to speak in public life. Includes verbatim text of his 100 best jokes against Harold Wilson. (Conservative Central Office, 50p.)

Red with Fish, White with Meat, by *The Sunday Times* Insight team. This revolutionary guide to choosing wine reveals that we have all, for years, been the victims of an enormous confidence trick perpetrated by the French vintners. Several months of expensive and hazardous research in French and Californian vineyards, combined with proffers of chemistry and nutrition to English and American universities all over the United States, with supportive field work in Sobro, lead to the conclusion that red wine ought to be drunk with fish and white meat. Rose need never be drunk at all, while a stiff

turns his attention to our latest contemporary preoccupations. There are bits on strategy, on gaining information about delivery dates and times, and on the most painful way of elbowing aside other customers. There are, too, moving and vivid interviews with the walking wounded, casualties of our urban way of life, who have sustained cracked ribs and bruised dignity while still failing to get the goods they required. Written during the great lavatory paper crisis of the winter of 1969, the book carries it right up to date with the sugar and cheese shortages of the summer. (Michael Joseph, £12.50.)

How to Cope with Inflation, by Don Cameron. A guide to hot air ballooning. (Vista Books, £19.50.)

The Coffee Table Book by Arthur Neff. Coffee tables through the ages. (Maxwell House, £27.)

The Book of Gams, by Gyles Braudrott. The latest game to sweep the country, in the wake of Go, Backgammon and Scrabble. Gams is a fascinating game played by pushing a small ball across a table with the elbow. Eventually the ball falls off and is then said to be

The Sacred and Profane Locomotive, by Iris and Les Murdoch. The Australian band and wife team's latest novel is about a man who finds the secret of publishing successful newspapers full pictures of undressed women. (News Limited, £18.50.)

Low Intelligence Operation by a soldier. A detailed plan to prevent a state take over of our 100 best companies, by military means. Cadres of management personnel are trained in the latest guerrilla techniques so as to effect rapid occupation of the offices, warehouses, cash offices, stationery store and other areas. (Aims of Industry, £21.)

My caption to one of my recent road signs: "Deadly Head Ahead," seen in Rhodesia, brought me a ticking off from a clerk working at a mission there. I said this was characteristic of the British, but he told me that signs are always followed by further signs describing the nature of the hazard. I should not have used it as a pretext for exercising my prejudice against his country.

Tomorrow; the St John's view.

Tim Devlin



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TURKEY SPOILS HER CASE

In the early stages of the Cyprus crisis it was natural that there should be a lot of international sympathy for Turkey. The government of Cyprus had been taken over by forces dedicated to union with Greece, and they were backed by a singularly unpleasant Greek government. Although there had been no obvious moves against Turkish Cypriots it was rational to assume that the balance of power in Cyprus would swing even further in favour of the Greeks and that the independence of the island was threatened. The Turkish invasion with its limited objectives looked almost too politically defensible in the circumstances, and when it brought down the Greek government it earned the gratitude of democrats everywhere.

Circumstances have now changed. The new Greek government is basking in domestic and foreign approval and there is widespread worry that its stability might be endangered by further humiliations in Cyprus. Even though it was not responsible for the situation in which it finds itself it is bound to bear some responsibility for the outcome. Its threat to boycott the Geneva talks may be tactical but it is an indication of the limits beyond which it feels it cannot allow itself to be pushed.

The balance of international opinion is therefore swinging against Turkey. Her forces have clearly violated the ceasefire while trying to improve their positions. Many Cypriots have been killed or made homeless by their needless brutality, and there are now new stories of atrocities. Valuable land has been laid waste. The beautiful port of Kyrenia has been damaged, and the Turks apparently intend to continue the destruction by turning it into a busy commercial port, an act for which they will not be thanked by future generations, as Mr Ecevit, with his aesthetic sense, should understand.

All this may not be entirely the fault of Mr Ecevit, who has not been fully in control of his armed forces, but he will need all his new-found popularity at home and all his undoubted political skill to prevent Turkish policy becoming an intolerable burden on the Geneva talks. His government is probably still not strong enough to defy the mili-

itary or to explain a total withdrawal to public opinion but there can obviously be no settlement in Cyprus while part of it remains under Turkish military occupation.

The assumption is that the Turkish presence is intended as a bargaining counter in negotiations for a new political structure that would enhance the situation of the Turkish Cypriots. This in itself could be acceptable provided the aims are realistic. At the moment Turks make up about 18.5 per cent of the population and have 30 per cent representation, but the system has been precarious and not fully satisfied by the Turks. It could scarcely be restored intact. Nor does it seem feasible to restore the key figure in that system, President Makarios, unless perhaps he is clearly called for by a majority of the population. Evidence of the torture that took place under his regime is now sufficient to cast doubts on his suitability, and his return would in any case be liable to inflame disputes that are temporarily dormant. Cyprus remains a precarious place full of armed groups and political tensions.

Something new must therefore be sought, and it must take into account a new situation, including the Turkish presence on the island. Turkish leaders are talking of a federal structure. It is still unclear what this means. If it means a totally separate Turkish area into which Turkish Cypriots would be moved it would be a mistake. The movement of population would cause extensive human suffering and leave a trail of bitterness in its wake, particularly among Greek Cypriots who would be moved out of their homes and away from their land. Even in purely practical terms it would be difficult to transfer skills from one area to another, and the economy of the island would be upset. There would also be wasteful duplication of administration.

Even if the inhabitants eventually settled down, another danger would arise, for a separation of the communities could pave the way towards "double enosis"—that is, union of the Greek areas with Greece and the Turkish areas with Turkey. This would not only provide a new source of friction between the two govern-

ments but would also be unacceptable to the Soviet Union, which has a legitimate interest in the balance of power in the Mediterranean.

The Soviet Union has played a fairly restrained role in the present crisis but her restraint is conditional upon there being no basic change in the political balance. Double enosis would bring Cyprus into NATO, which would be a fairly significant change. Considering what a temptation it must be to the Soviet military to make a quick grab at Salonika or the Bosphorus, or to put various forms of pressure on Turkey, or to back more energetically the Palestine guerrilla movement, NATO might have to pay a high price.

Any settlement must therefore take into account a network of different interests involving the people of Cyprus, the governments of Greece and Turkey, NATO, the United States and the Soviet Union. The only point at which all these interests can be reconciled is an independent Cyprus with a democratically elected government and probably an enhanced degree of security against the Turkish minority. The outline is fairly simple but the details will require extremely delicate constitutional adjustments as well as a high degree of cooperation between Athens and Ankara.

It is here that the most difficult problems arise. Both Greece and Turkey have recently emerged from a period of military tutelage and their governments are not as strong as their temporary popularity would suggest. Both are entering a new phase of internal politics in which they will probably have to seek accommodation with the left. In both countries Cyprus is an emotional issue bound up with national aspirations. Thus either government could be quickly eroded by anything that looked like a sell-out, and military groups would be quick to take advantage. Each therefore needs the help of the other. Since each is probably the best imaginable government for its country at present and also the most reasonable negotiating partner for the other, they should have powerful reasons for reaching agreement. But reasons alone are not enough. Constructive mediation by other countries will still be necessary.

Value of housing subsidies

From Mr Bernard Kilroy
Sir, The apprehensive groans at the tail end of your leader (July 31) about the general rash of subsidy liabilities obscures any sober evaluation of the need for and benefits of housing subsidies in the public sector—and the dilemmas involved.

The following points need emphasis: 1 If housing accounts for 20 per cent of expenditure of low-income households (13 per cent for all households) and if these costs have risen by 40 per cent during the last three years then housing subsidies must be good sense because otherwise their likely erosion and direct benefits on personal incomes.

2 The vagaries of the private housing market are now a major source of instability in the construction industry and thus the economy at large. Therefore injections into public housing investment which has fallen by 50 per cent since 1968 represent a welcome stabilizing influence.

3 Loan charges are more than ever at the mercy of the uncontrolled land market at a time when the housing investment which has fallen by 50 per cent since 1968 represents a welcome stabilizing influence. Even under the existing subsidy provisions the land factor added to the rise in interest rates has increased the cost of housing by 30-40 per cent in the South East and higher in central locations.

4 A £350 million public housing subsidy is matched by a concealed subsidy of perhaps £500 million in the form of mortgage interest tax relief for private owners. These private housing subsidies are not offering the best investment return to the country because not only new additions to the housing stock but all transactions can make an automatic call on exchequer funds. And the vast volume of transactions has been boosted artificially as a result of the house price spiral and the tendency for house-owners to move more frequently. Subsidies used in these circumstances simply contribute to the accumulation of private wealth and there is no offsetting advantage to the taxpayer in the form of fiscal drawback.

5 The average public subsidy contribution is some £61 per dwelling as against £79 per dwelling for private mortgages. An additional benefit is that public housing costs can be met out of the private owners' budgets. These private housing subsidies are not offering the best investment return to the country because not only new additions to the housing stock but all transactions can make an automatic call on exchequer funds. And the vast volume of transactions has been boosted artificially as a result of the house price spiral and the tendency for house-owners to move more frequently. Subsidies used in these circumstances simply contribute to the accumulation of private wealth and there is no offsetting advantage to the taxpayer in the form of fiscal drawback.

6 These comparisons must be made against a background of a general fall in public expenditure on housing and a shift in recent years within the total towards distributing a far greater proportion of public funds as forms of assistance to the private sector.

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD KILROY,
Housing Action 74,
386 Hornsey Road, N19.
August 1.

Pergamon Press inquiry

From Mr Robert Maxwell
Sir, In your leading article concerning the criticisms of Sir Denis Lawson by the Department of Trade and Industry an opportunity to give my criticisms was provided with a list of the proposed criticisms of him and invited to comment on them, thereby enabling him to know precisely what criticism of him the inspectors were minded to make and giving me an opportunity to refute such criticisms. This is a very welcome improvement in procedure and it is to be hoped that all inspectors will in future do likewise.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT MAXWELL,
Prospective Labour Parliamentary Candidate, Buckingham.
August 2.

Arts Council grants

From Mr David Sylvester
Sir, "What is the point?" cries Mr Luce-Smith (in your issue of July 24), of publishing 50 new novels if nobody reads them? Or 10 large-scale poetry anthologies which moulder in a publisher's warehouse? The point, surely, is that, once one has a poem in a prior, one should find the readers it deserves, which it will not as a typescript in a suitcase in a loft.

There has been a tradition by which a few individuals who were rich and wise and kind have helped writers, etc., to survive and to publish their work. It has a negligible audience at the time but some of which has later become very widely and gratefully accepted. Insofar as state taxation eliminates the private patron, it becomes the responsibility of the state to take over his eccentric, indispensable role.

That is what public patronage should be about—not to whip up an audience but to ensure that things are left lying around where an audience can discover them for itself when it is ready. At least, that is what patronage should be about if we are to respect the dignity of the artist and of the audience.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SYLVESTER,
21 Melrose Road, SW1R.
July 28.

London weighting

From Mr B. J. Homill
Sir, To a simple Scot, the goings-on in London are often hard to understand. In view of the reluctance of civil servants to move to Glasgow perhaps some kind person could explain to me how it is that the much-discussed weighting allowances seem to be designed to make them even less anxious to work in our fair city?

Yours faithfully,
B. J. HAMILL,
69 West End Park Street,
Glasgow.
July 30.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Cyprus dispute and Nato

From Mr Alan Lee Williams, Labour MP for Havering, Hornchurch
Sir, The unwarranted Russian veto in the Security Council once again underlines the intention of exploiting the Cyprus situation to her strategic advantage. Should the Cyprus dispute continue it would do great damage to the national interests of both Greece and Turkey. This would mark the end of Cyprus's independence and well as gravely damaging NATO. The Russians have every interest in such a conflict which would see the collapse of the southern flank of NATO in intra-block conflict.

A politically unstable situation would arise similar to that in the Middle East with Turkey in a very difficult position of being the winner who takes all but in reality getting no real additional gain to her long-term security. Greece would lick her wounds and plan revenge; her domestic crisis would worsen and perhaps sufficiently badly for the present weak civilian government dominated by the military might turn to the Soviet Union for succour just as Egypt felt constrained to do so in similar circumstances.

Cyprus would be the worst affected; the defeat of Greece could lead to a Turkish military occupation; the Cypriot insurgents with arms supplied by the Soviet Union and the Eastern blocs, together with the general Arab support (including some Arab states might well side with the Turks), the scene would be set for a new war.

One thing seems certain, a war between Greece and Turkey would not be the least desirable of events. It faces the same fate regardless of who wins since her independence would be destroyed. But the real loser would be the West because a Graeco-Turkish conflict would destroy the southern flank of the alliance and even the United Nations was able to restore something like normality in Cyprus, and this is a big if, NATO would never be the same again. Greece and Turkey even if they remained formal allies to NATO after fighting each other would not be able to assist to the growth of alliance cohesion upon which the future of NATO depends, especially on its southern flank.

The failure of the United Kingdom or NATO to prevent the imbrigo in the first place would shadow an even more serious crisis and one which cannot already be seen in NATO thinking. The split between those who feel that Western Europe's long-term credibility depends on the central front and the central front alone, and those who argue that the southern flank should be built up with northern and central aid to NATO, taking a more active part in the defence of Southern Europe since a failure to meet the Soviet challenge on this flank must itself destroy the credibility of NATO as a whole. This raises the wider and more important question of the strategic importance of the southern flank to NATO.

The brilliant diplomacy of the British Foreign Secretary threatens to bring about the basis of a peaceful solution on which an endurable peace even in this volatile situation could be achieved, but this does not

The rates system and inflation

From Mr John V. Hatch
Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd (The Times, July 30) is right to emphasize the difficulties still facing rate-payers in Oxfordshire and elsewhere. Whether he offers a desirable solution in the problem is another matter.

The dominant feature of local government expenditure is its high labour intensity, when labour costs are likely to rise both absolutely, and in relation to other costs, over the foreseeable future. Against a sluggish, if not zero, growth in real national income this implies that even the existing level of local government services cannot be maintained unless the country as a whole is prepared to accept a cut in its real disposable income.

These longer term implications of the fundamental question is not who shall pay for the existing services, but whether the services themselves are being provided at the correct level and in the correct way. If, as Mr Hurd suggests, items such as teachers' salaries were transferred from the local to the national level, this fundamental question would go by default.

Local authorities, in the interests of their local areas, would automatically take up their maximum quota of teachers, while the quotas themselves would be largely determined by the transient monetary and fiscal pressures, upon the central government. Within a short time, local government would earn the censure of Whitehall, for being spendthrift, and incur the anger of parents for being unresponsive and erratic in its planning.

These longer term implications do not of course contradict Mr Hurd's diagnosis of the shorter term needs. In Oxfordshire alone, for instance, substantial provision was made for this year's inflation, and indeed the implications of such a standstill and 1 per cent cut budget, among others, were being considered long before Mr Crosland's infamous warning. Despite this, the government have permitted inflation to proceed at such a pace that a substantial increase in rates supporting the terms of a budget, among others, were being considered long before Mr Crosland's infamous warning. Despite this, the government have permitted inflation to proceed at such a pace that a substantial increase in rates supporting the terms of a budget, among others, were being considered long before Mr Crosland's infamous warning. Despite this, the government have permitted inflation to proceed at such a pace that a substantial increase in rates supporting the terms of a budget, among others, were being considered long before Mr Crosland's infamous warning.

The difference is a crucial one. Because the monarchy in Greece was illegally, and thus unacceptably, "abolished" by a singularly undemocratic act of an undemocratic regime.

As regards the plebiscite on the monarchy, which will undoubtedly have to take place in Greece, it is important to appreciate that the question posed to the Greek people shall have to be whether or not the King will be deposed and certainly not whether the King will be re-elected.

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The rates system and inflation

From Mr David Petri
Sir, The article by Christopher Walker on Monday July 29 was out correct and I am not surprised that it provoked Major Henry Haydon's lengthy rejoinder.

The National Association of Ratepayers Action Groups is not an irresponsible body seeking wild changes ad hoc of economic and political alterations.

As spokesmen on NARAG I must tell you that it concentrates on improving the lot of the ordinary people, all the chambers of commerce and trade. All bodies of opinion unclouded by party politics or other limitations as far as rates are concerned. It was responsible for £150m worth of Rate relief being granted to the country and it will doubt achieve other successes in the area of rates in the future.

Regrettably rates cannot be separated from inflation, so NARAG must associate itself to that field as well as the pure area of rating matters.

10-point charter by NARAG explains explicitly what its aims are and there is a very simple leaflet available to anyone interested which lists exactly the objects and intentions of the association.

May I suggest that anyone who wishes to see the present century to me so that they may know the true facts of NARAG and not the inaccurately reported in your columns?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PETRI,
Little Bodes,
Newick, Sussex.
Heathfield, Sussex.

From Mr H. D. Schmidt
Sir, People who are looking for an economic cause and remedy to the present hyper-inflation are quite mistaken. The present destruction of money is not due to errors in economic thinking but to a constitutional defect.

As long as governments are permitted to issue new banknotes in order to bribe the electorate and a two-party system offers its institutionalized class warfare, economic planning and monetary stability are impossible, as the post-war history of this country has shown.

It has become imperative to create economic and monetary institutions that are independent of government as the law courts, especially in the field of money and credit management. To the present century the doctrine of the separation of powers ought to be extended to include the monetary power. The Bank of England ought to be given back its authority to manage the nation's money supply answerable not to any government but to a bipartisan committee in Parliament.

Yours truly,
H. D. SCHMIDT,
3 Camel Terrace,
Wallingford,
Berks.

A constitutional defect
Sir, I do not wish to revive the controversy in which I was involved eleven years ago, to which Mr Levie referred in his article (July 26) entitled "Everyman's idea of what makes a critic". If I should not consider it kicking the dead, does the whistle has blown—perhaps this may be regarded as injury time—once final comment I should like to make concerning the responsibilities of a critic is to suggest that the qualifications he should have are not only an expert knowledge in his field and the ability to record his impressions of any work fairly as he sees it, but also a sensitivity to the feelings of others and perhaps even a sense of humour. One would hope that these are not incompatible.

Yours faithfully,
STAMP,
7 Hyde Park Street, W2.

From Lord Stamp
Sir, I do not wish to revive the controversy in which I was involved eleven years ago, to which Mr Levie referred in his article (July 26) entitled "Everyman's idea of what makes a critic". If I should not consider it kicking the dead, does the whistle has blown—perhaps this may be regarded as injury time—once final comment I should like to make concerning the responsibilities of a critic is to suggest that the qualifications he should have are not only an expert knowledge in his field and the ability to record his impressions of any work fairly as he sees it, but also a sensitivity to the feelings of others and perhaps even a sense of humour. One would hope that these are not incompatible.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN GROUNDS,
48 Holmshurst Road, SW15.

Piccadilly bus lane
From Mr Cecil Gould
Sir, Another person was killed yesterday (July 31) in the Piccadilly bus lane, bringing the total, I am told, to five.

The public, which appears not to have been kept informed of the consequences of this rash experiment, would thus be justified in demanding either that it be discontinued or that barriers be erected on both sides of the lane. One or other of these courses must be taken immediately.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL GOULD,
As from 6 Palace Gate, W8.

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST

Mr Wilson says darkly but vaguely that the Conservative leaders are entering into discussions with the Ulster "extremists" whom they would not be seen dead with when they were in government. Disreputable, he says. Mr Mellish, his Chief Whip, is more precise in his allegation: the Conservative leadership is trying to buy the support of United Ulster Unionist MPs, that is the West-Craig-Parlane group of eleven, by promising them an enlarged representation for Ulster at Westminster. (It is one of the principal grievances of those MPs that Northern Ireland has markedly fewer seats at Westminster in proportion to size of electorate than is the case for England, Scotland and Wales.)

Mr Mellish's charge, if true—and Mr Ian Gilmour, the Conservative spokesman on Northern Ireland, denies its truth—would do discredit to the Conservative leadership. It would be a secret undertaking to provide in some form of parliamentary arrangement from which the Conservative Party would be excluded. Each publicly professes to oppose, namely an enlargement of Ulster representation at Westminster.

The grounds of Mr Wilson's disapproval are more difficult to discern, for he is imprecise in his charges. He seems to be suggesting that it is disreputable of

conservative leaders to hold political discussions with the United Ulster Unionist MPs either because they were on bad terms with them when in office or because those MPs include "extremists" with some paramilitary affiliations. If that is his objection, he well exemplifies why it is that Whitehall's policy towards Northern Ireland has come unstuck.

To treat the United Ulster Unionist MPs, who occupy all but one of the province's seats at Westminster, as parliamentary lepers, as people with whom no one would value his reputation would do business, is to commit the political blunder of non-comprehension. It is to prolong the error of regarding as suitable only to be denounced or ignored all those Ulstermen who do not conform in their outlook or behaviour to the ideas which the English political centre naturally forms as to how they should behave and think. Victims of their own political fanaticism both front benches failed to appreciate the profundity of each other's resentment against the imposition of well-intentioned political novelties against a background of continuing IRA violence, and then failed to get the measure of the working-class revolt against that process which demolished in a matter of days the political structures which had

issued from British policy during the previous two years. In the numbness caused by those events Labour ministers appeared to be ready to learn from their mistakes and achieve a broader understanding of what is authentic in Ulster's political life. It is depressing to hear the Prime Minister carry on now, even if he was only swinging his bat in a pre-election net, as if the lesson was already forgotten.

Nor on Mr Mellish's point about the number of Northern Ireland MPs is it wise to speak as if the matter was closed. The reluctance of most MPs to contemplate the effect of more of their own number coming from Ulster is understood and well known. While the constitutional future of Ulster is still uncertain and while the long-standing formulas for the distribution of seats in the United Kingdom Parliament remain settled, the status quo is defensible, however little Ulster politicians may like it. But neither of those conditions are likely to persist through the next Parliament. Some more lasting arrangements must be worked out for Ulster, and any substantial measure of devolution for Scotland or Wales necessarily touches upon the formulas for their representation at Westminster, even if the conclusion is no change.

only to halt all those plans now being put into operation, but also to reevaluate all plans either under inquiry or in the pipeline, in the light of these new capacity standards. The matter is more urgent in that recent contract prices show the cost of building rural motorways to be £2 million a mile. In addition there is the fact that recent traffic vehicle counts, on the M1 and other existing motorways, show that traffic is currently between a per cent and 30 per cent down, compared with the same period last year.

In these circumstances, can plans for future motorway construction, with its extravagant land take of 32 acres per mile, and from 100-150 acres for every interchange, possibly be in the public interest? Yours faithfully,
BARBARA MAUDE, Chairman,
Midland Motorways Action Committee,
South Kensington House,
Near Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

Editors and unions
From Mr H. H. Wall
Sir, The correspondence between Ken Morgan and Bob Farmer on current NUJ attitudes towards the closed shop and the role of editors during industrial disputes, fails to underline sufficiently the variation between union policy and its interpretation.

As a full NUJ member and an editor, I am far reassured by Mr Morgan that the industrial scene is not being strewn with additional hazards for editors.

Mr Morgan quotes the NUJ's annual conference's reaffirmation that editors are free to continue

normal work, even though their colleagues may be on strike. But he did not make it clear that this decision was not so much a reaffirmation as an imposition of tighter control on what an editor may do, particularly if he has several newspapers within his grasp.

Similarly, the conference decision to abolish associate membership and bring editors into full membership was not intended primarily to involve editors in rank and file union activities but to establish greater control over them.

During the recent SOGAT dispute the NUJ issued instructions to members not to cross SOGAT picket lines. That ruling contained no dispensation for NUJ editors, despite the conference decision. Fortunately, the ruling was never put to the test, but the implication remains that in crossing picket lines an editor would not only have to satisfy his NUJ colleagues that he had sanction to work but would also have had to persuade pickets from another union that this was so.

Mr Morgan's statement that a post-entry closed shop was union policy for many years is true. But again he does not make it clear that this policy was never directed towards recruiting editors. In fact, NUJ members who became editors were discouraged from active union membership.

Editors, by the nature of their jobs, straddle the bridge between management and their journalistic staff. That bridge now looks like being converted into a fence.

Yours etc,
H. H. WALL, Editor,
South London Press,
2-5 Leigham Court Road,
Streatham, SW16.

London weighting
From Mr B. J. Homill
Sir, To a simple Scot, the goings-on in London are often hard to understand. In view of the reluctance of civil servants to move to Glasgow perhaps some kind person could explain to me how it is that the much-discussed weighting allowances seem to be designed to make them even less anxious to work in our fair city?

Yours faithfully,
B. J. HAMILL,
69 West End Park Street,
Glasgow.
July 30.

Selection in education
From the Headmaster of Bristol Grammar School
Sir, Mr Ronald Butt's article on comprehensive schools (July 18) was sufficiently ill-considered to enable Mr E. W. H. Briault in his reply on July 25 to pass over in silence what seem to me many of the real grounds for concern about universal comprehensive reorganization in the maintained sector.

Amongst them are: 1. The inevitable size of 11-18 all-through comprehensive schools; they cannot provide the range of opportunity of which Mr Butt speaks unless a very large number of secondary schools are closed or merged; the mere fact that the male-factor is unlikely to be known to the representative of authority who happens to come upon his malefactor is a homely, everyday fact which may not matter much to the administrator but is highly significant in practical terms.

2. Despite assertions to the contrary, it is far from proven that comprehensive schools can make possible the same degree of academic achievement and fulfilment on the part of able children as selective schools. For instance, the graph and figures recently published relating to declining numbers of candidates at O and A Level in Manchester in a comprehensive system (Times Educational Supplement, July 19) seem to give grounds for considerable hesitation.

3. Certainly here in Bristol it is abundantly clear that considerable numbers of parents want their children to be educated in selective schools. Increasing numbers of candidates for the joint entrance procedure run by three boys' direct Grant schools in the city seek to do so—I have no reason to believe our experience different from that of the others, but simply cannot speak for them—a very sharp decline in recent years in the number of places not accepted as soon as offered, make clear that many parents want these schools and do not find the alternatives acceptable.

One wonders what gives schools a better title to exist than the settled desire of many responsible parents to send their children to them.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MACKAY,
The Grammar School,
University Road,
Bristol,
July 29.

Political prisoners in Spain
From Mr Alan Grounds
Sir, With mass releases of political prisoners from Portugal, Turkey and Greece almost all the prisoners of conscience left in Communist Europe are now to be found in one country: Spain.

In the first 5 months of Sr Arias Navarro's premiership, 767 persons were arrested according to Spanish publication *Mundo Social*, for "subversive activities". During this time also workers continued to receive 10-20 years sentences for trade union activities considered normal in all democratic countries, priests fined or imprisoned for supporting them, and conscientious objectors sent to prison for up to 8 years. And this immediately following Sr Arias Navarro's restoration after 35 years of the right of political association.

If such a right were to be established, however, it might have to be reconciled to an extraordinary proposal to be debated in the Spanish Parliament after the summer recess, as part of a draft "Organic Law of Justice". This would make it obligatory for all lawyers to swear an Oath of Fidelity to the government.

In the British context this would mean that only Conservative lawyers could practise during a Tory government, only Socialist lawyers during a Labour government, while any other persuasion would have to abjourn their profession or to swear falsely in order to continue working.

Under this law, if passed, the political Public Order Court would be abolished. But the same concept of illegal, illicit propaganda and so forth, would be tried in a new court, the Central Penal

Court, along with theft, fraud, blackmail, murder, etc. Thus the Spanish government could say there was no specifically political court, though a Spanish publication of like politics or the possession of a leaflet could be punished just as it is at present. In brief blatant window-dressing and nothing more.

Through your columns, Sir, I hope that these proposals, so prejudicial to the future of democracy in Spain, can become known.

The Spanish Government is no doubt sincere in its desire to be accepted by the democratic countries of Europe. But when such legislative deception is found once again to be the true content of the "organic" package deal is it not reasonable to ask that liberalization this time follows the unequivocal example of Portugal, Turkey and Greece, unconditional liberation of all political prisoners. Then the world might begin to believe in it.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN GROUNDS,
48 Holmshurst Road, SW15.

Piccadilly bus lane
From Mr Cecil Gould
Sir, Another person was killed yesterday (July 31) in the Piccadilly bus lane, bringing the total, I am told, to five.

The public, which appears not to have been kept informed of the consequences of this rash experiment, would thus be justified in demanding either that it be discontinued or that barriers be erected on both sides of the lane. One or other of these courses must be taken immediately.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL GOULD,
As from 6 Palace Gate, W8.

MR JOHN MANSEL Forged papers in POW camp

Major A. C. Davidson-Houston writes:—
John Mansel's death is a great loss to his many friends. Those of us who knew him as a prisoner-of-war in Germany found his strength and cheerful personality a tremendous help to our morale. In addition to his great qualities as a friend, he gave unsparring efforts to assist those attempting to escape by preparing remarkable documents for them. These ranged from identity and other official documents to personal correspondence useful in supporting the "nationality" and supposed occupation of the escaping officer.
The strain of this work, both on his eyesight and his nerves, was tremendous but never seemed to alter his cheerfulness and good humour. The fact that his work continued for years and that the Germans spared no effort to find the "Thomas Cook" who provided those travel documents must give some idea of his determination and tenacity for which a great many grateful people will always be grateful.

PROF. M. GELZER

J. P. V. B. writes:—
I would like to add a little to your perceptive notice of Professor Matthias Gelzer. He and Friedrich Műnzner have, in the post-1945 era, been the two giants in the study of Roman Republican history. Műnzner opening up the productive field of prosopographic inquiry, Gelzer uncovering the structure of aristocratic government in his *Republik* and producing masterpieces of unobtrusive scholarship, lives of important Romans, in particular of Cicero and Caesar. English-speaking students owe a deep gratitude to all those responsible for the publication of his most important works in English translation. In Gelzer, the scholar reflected the man: kind, generous, always a stimulant. A number of eminent scholars—not Germans only—have been his pupils, free without any danger of losing his warm regard to take issue with him on aspects of historical scholarship. One in particular, Professor Hermann Strasburger, performed an act of *pietas* when he edited the three volumes of Gelzer's *Kleine Schriften*.
It was a matter of great regret to Gelzer, as it was to Oxford, that his health was not good enough to allow him to come to Oxford a few years ago to receive the honorary doctorate which the University had voted to confer on him.

MR ERNEST MILTON

Sir Rupert Hart-Davis writes:—
In 1928 I was a student at the Old Vic. I had already seen Ernest Milton's superb performance in *Loyalties* and *The Ducky*, but now, holding my spear, I was able to watch at very close range the subtleties of his Shylock, Mercutio, Hamlet and King Lear. From the wings I watched his Joseph Surface, and for two nerve-shattering performances, when Eric Portman was ill, I played the screen scene with Ernest and Jean Forbes-Robertson. To me all Ernest's performances were thrilling, and his mannerisms, which later I came to know so well, were all part of his magic. He possessed that magnetic quality which draws audiences and in all he did he was an artist.
But perhaps his most remarkable feat of virtuosity during that season was in *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. Playing Palamon, Ernest was equipped with a bright orange wig in which he looked grotesque. When he made his first entrance he was met by a girl of laughter. In a split second he realized that it was useless to play his part straight, as he had rehearsed it, so he gently burlesqued for the rest of the evening, stealing the show and making the notices, which were a brilliant piece of improvisation. As Sir John Gielgud has said, Ernest Milton was indeed a dear man and a great actor.



Competitors in the light trade turnout class at the Essex Tradesmen's Show at Brentwood yesterday.

Council of churches facing new issue of human rights in communist countries

By Martin Huckerby

Much criticism has been levelled at the World Council of Churches (WCC) for its support of left-wing liberation movements, and that has led to a build-up of pressure from many of its supporters who want the council to take an equally firm stand on the issue of human rights in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The WCC is very sensitive to suggestions that it has been operating a double standard in the human rights field—attacking the South African regime while failing to condemn oppression in the Soviet Union.

Its officials are very aware of this "Achilles heel", but they believe the problem of the communist countries must be dealt with delicately, with slow, careful work to try to improve the situation.

However, they may soon be unable to contain the pressure for more vigorous action.

The Rev Paul Oestreicher, secretary of the East-West Relations Advisory Committee of the British Council of Churches, said the issue of human rights in Eastern Europe had blown up at a meeting of the WCC's central committee.

Officials had agreed then to hold a full consultation on human rights, and it should take place in Austria in October.

He thought the consultation might well lead to a flare-up on the whole issue, however, by raising that might prove for the WCC. He said some people were already worried that the preliminary discussions were not being held in a way that would avoid criticism of the communist countries and took "the straight Moscow line".

One document has already been issued, entitled *Human Rights and Christian Responsibility*, and contains two articles on human rights.

Dr Payne said he was aware of some unhappiness about the probable agenda for the consultation, but he thought that should not be a cause for concern. "Once a consultation comes together, you cannot avoid issues being raised, which can be inconvenient for everybody."

There have been suggestions that the consultation might actually be cancelled, perhaps due to the various pressures or to financial problems, but Dr Payne said that was very unlikely.

Details of the consultation would be discussed at the meetings this month in Berlin of the WCC's executive and central committees.

The consultation forms part of the build-up for the Fifth Assembly of the WCC next year, and as that is due to take place in Jakarta, the issue of human rights presents further problems; Indonesia has thousands of prisoners kept without trial in long-term detention, and has also imprisoned Yap Thiam Hien, vice-chairman of the WCC's Inter Church Board.

As the Rev David Taylor, general secretary of the New Zealand Council of Churches, said recently: "There are dangers in Jakarta if the WCC takes up the human rights issue at the assembly. It is not how can it right for the WCC to keep silent on such an issue? If silence is the price of going to Jakarta, should the council go?"

While the consultation may bring the problem into greater prominence, the WCC's dilemma is likely to remain: should the churches continue to work quietly and gradually for greater observance of human rights in such countries as the Soviet Union, or should they press vigorously for action and risk damage to the whole work of the World Council of Churches?

Dr Ernest Payne, one of the presidents of the WCC, agreed that the council had done a great deal on such subjects as Africa, "some people feel it has not always protested loudly enough about what is thought to be wrong in certain other societies, particularly Eastern Europe".

But he believed it was necessary to tread carefully in that field, particularly staying away from different interpretations of human rights.

Dr Payne also stressed the need to tread carefully in that field, particularly staying away from different interpretations of human rights.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. J. P. Platt and Miss L. M. Collings
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. A. Platt, of Dollar, Scotland, and Linda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Collings, of Denham, Buckinghamshire.

Dr C. J. Hinds and Miss J. P. Dobson
The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Dr and Mrs J. P. Hinds, of Bromley, Kent, and Joan Patricia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. I. Dobson, of Neath, Glamorganshire.

Mr M. J. Webster and Miss D. M. Forsyth
The engagement is announced between Mr M. J. Webster, son of the late Mr Francis Webster and Mrs Webster, Maguire, Arbroath, and Dianne Margaret, only daughter of the late Mr Alexander Forsyth and Mrs Forsyth, 45 Beechwood Drive, Glasgow.

Marriages

Mr L. N. Bachas and Señoría N. E. Mallorquín
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, Marlystone Road, NW, of the couple, Nicolás Bachas, son of Mr and Mrs Nicolás Bachas, of Athens, and Señoría Norma Mallorquín, daughter of the Ambassador of Paraguay and Señoría de Mallorquín, The Quadrangle Theatre, Marlborough Square, W. Father A. Fudge officiated.
The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was accompanied by Señoría Soledad and Mr Constantino G. Los was best man.

A reception was held at the embassy residence and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr D. French and Miss S. A. Halsey
The marriage took place on Saturday in Carlisle Cathedral in the presence of Mr David French, son of Captain Godfrey French, RN, and Mrs French, of Carlisle, and Miss Sarah Halsey, daughter of the Bishop of Carlisle and Mrs Halsey, of Rose Castle, Dalton.

Mr R. W. Boulton and Miss C. Gibson
The marriage took place on August 2 at Borrolods, Northern Territory, Australia, between Mr Robert Westbury Boulton and Miss Claire Gibson, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Gibson, of Chidrey, Cheshire, and lately of Athens, Greece.

Mr J. B. Greenhalgh and Miss A. M. Feeny
The marriage took place on Saturday in Ladocross Chapel, Seaford, of Mr Jeremy Baron Greenhalgh and Miss Angela Feeny, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Feeny. A reception was held at Ladocross.

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Mr J. P. Gimson and Miss D. E. Critchley
The engagement is announced between John Peter Gimson, only son of Mr Peter Gimson, MRCS, LRCP, and Mrs Gimson, of The Chantry, Aylesbury, and Diana Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Critchley, of Manor Farm, Drayton Parslow, Blechley, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R. H. Lie and Miss P. Wise
The engagement is announced between Raymond, son of Mr and Mrs H. Lie, of Risaléen 33, Oslo 3, Norway, and Paula, daughter of Major and Mrs P. G. Wise, of Hindlip Cottage, Forest Row, Sussex.

Mr P. J. B. McIn. Smeed and Miss C. J. Corby
The engagement is announced between Philip James Brock McNeil, elder son of Mr D. Smeed, of Hornmead House, Donnington, and Mrs Corby, of 235 Cromwell Road, London, SW7, and Caroline Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Corby, of Killarney, Huddell Common, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

Mr R. F. Kirk and Dr C. Humphreys
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Coxwold, Yorkshire, between Mr Robert Kirk, younger son of the late Right Rev Dr R. E. Kirk, sometime Bishop of Oxford, and the late Mrs Kirk, daughter of the late Mrs Humphreys, of Middlesbrough. The Rev Alan Morris, Canon R. E. Sharpley, and the Rev Gwilym R. Tilsley took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Margaret Humphreys and Mr Christopher Chapman was best man.

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Today's engagements

Royal salutes, to mark the anniversary of the Queen Mother's birthday, will be fired from the Tower of London, 1, Bute Park, Wales, 12.

British Museum, Department of Manuscripts, exhibition of Tudor and Stuart alphabets and writing books, British Museum, 10-5.

Exhibition: The First Americans—The North American Indians, Horniman Museum, London Road, Forest Hill, 10.30-6.

Second World War Aircraft Exhibition, London Airport, Cheltenham, 11-5.

Head S. O. A. Gamble (I & II), Bail, London, 11.30-1.30.

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Mr Harold Macmillan to give lecture

Mr Harold Macmillan is to deliver the 1975 Iain Macleod memorial lecture at the Greater London Young Conservative annual conference in Hastings, Sussex, on April 6.

The London Old Fettesian Association's Iain Macleod Memorial Appeal, now registered as a charity, has raised subscriptions of £1,600 for investment. That needs to be doubled to provide adequate resources for an annual award to a boy at Iain Macleod's old school, Fettes College, for academic, social, service, athletic, or overseas travels.

With Lord Fraser of Kilmarock and Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the Speaker, as trustees, the fund appeal is being kept open for another year.

Birthdays today

Professor A. L. D'Aurel, 68; Sir Lionel Denny, 77; Major-General W. H. Hargreaves, 66; Major-General J. M. W. Martin, 72; Professor Margaret Reid, 85; Christy Rodgers, 62; Sir Peter Venables, 70.

Science report

Marmots: Colonization and social behaviour

Populations of different species of marmot studied in differing habitats shows distinct degrees of social behaviour and colony formation related to the harshness of the environment.

Dr P. F. Barrett, of Washington University at Seattle, has compared various aspects of the life of three species of marmot which live in ecologically distinct habitats and during the period of weaning when the females protect their young.

The growing season is in the most favourable conditions and the woodland breeds every year. The young achieve about 33 per cent of the potential adult weight in their first year and disperse widely from the natal colonies.

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Appeal fund launched

An appeal fund in the memory of Stephen Arden, late administrator of the Sadler's Wells Opera, has been opened at the London Coliseum. It is to provide for the education and development of a young person intending to follow a career in opera.

£50,000 winner

The weekly £50,000 Premium Savings Bond prize, announced on Saturday was won by Mr Peter 404837. The winner lives in Dorset.

The 25 £1,000 winners are: Mrs 123456, Mrs 234567, Mrs 345678, Mrs 456789, Mrs 567890, Mrs 678901, Mrs 789012, Mrs 890123, Mrs 901234, Mrs 012345, Mrs 123456, Mrs 234567, Mrs 345678, Mrs 456789, Mrs 567890, Mrs 678901, Mrs 789012, Mrs 890123, Mrs 901234, Mrs 012345.

25 years ago

From the Times of Thursday, August 4, 1949

From Our Lisbon Correspondent

The National Assembly last week ratified the signing of the Atlantic Pact by Portugal. When she agreed to participate in the pact the local Press hailed the event not as a landmark or significant change but as a logical continuation of a policy pursued for many years.

The event was characteristic of the uneventful and peaceful administration of the Corporate State under Dr Salazar, who remained Prime Minister for 22 years. Whatever has been said regarding the political theories of his Government, the one can challenge its happy uneventfulness.

Farmers' spring-sown crops are still in doubt

Farmers reporting to The Times from all parts of Britain on the condition of the principal crops at the start of August are little less pessimistic about their barley than they were a month ago. But the crop is still rated five points below the 10-year average and lower than in any recent year since the drought harvest of 1970.

The winter-sown crops, barleving of which is well under way in the south, have not turned out so badly. Wheat appears to be up to local average figures, with some six-row types running up to 48cwt an acre in Sussex.

It is the spring-sown crop that is the cause of concern, although actual figures seem to be fewer than would have been expected at one time. The worst fields are to be found on soils in certain parts of the country, where the early hay and silage crops were light and late haymaking has been made difficult by rain. The result has been a smothered sowing which has been sown by those who have hay to sell, or even, in some cases, barley straw.

In Shropshire, hay has been selling off the field at £35 to £38 a ton, equivalent to a winter price of about £50. In Nottinghamshire, barley straw is reported to have been sold

rape a crop taking up an increasing acreage, are somewhat mixed; a Buckinghamshire grower puts his average at about 2cwt an acre below last year but there are some heavy crops yet to be threshed out. Field beans are generally podding well and there are no reports of chocolate-spot disease.

Agriculture

Leonard Amey

at £10 a ton on the field, yet in Cambridgeshire on Wednesday I saw the first field of the season going up in smoke.

Diseases in cereals provide few surprises for anyone who has walked a few fields. All the usual troubles are there and some of the new, specific have not done as well as we were expected to. Seed treatment against mildew in Golden Promise barley in Angus showed up well until June, but later infection is said to have been severe.

There is a report of rust on Maris Huntsman wheat from Suffolk as well as from Northumbria, where outbreaks of the country, where the early hay and silage crops were light and late haymaking has been made difficult by rain. The result has been a smothered sowing which has been sown by those who have hay to sell, or even, in some cases, barley straw.

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The following tables show the estimates of the condition of the principal crops at August 1 in four main divisions of England; 100 represents full growth and freedom from disease and injury:

	Wheat	Barley</
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Strutt & Parker A NATIONWIDE URBAN AND RURAL PROPERTY SERVICE 13 HILL STREET, LONDON W1X 9DL

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Ansafone 19 Upper Brook Street, London W1V 2HS Let Ansafone answer your phone 01-629 9232

Docks Board has 'serious reservations' on ports takeover

By Our Industrial Editor... The state-owned British Transport Docks Board is understood to have serious reservations about the wisdom of the Government's declared aim of extending nationalisation of the ports industry.

Maplin Seaport costs may doom project

By Michael Baily... Plans for a seaport at Maplin are likely to meet the same fate as the proposed airport before the end of the year, if the present Government stays in power.

record £11.3m profit when other port authorities were still experiencing serious financial problems. For his part, Mr Mulley has said since May when he pledged the Government to introduce legislation to extend public ownership on a national scale.

South African container trade - last of Britain's big trunk trade routes to be containerized for the time being - it accepts that Maplin could not be ready in time for the new container ships to enter service in 1977-8.

There are fears, too, that a seaport-only project would be certain to expand into a big industrial complex to justify the port investment, contrary to regional planning policies.

Orders for consumer protection held up

By Hugh Clayton... Consumer protection orders which the Office of Fair Trading wants to be issued from next month may have to be postponed until next year.

But now the committee is not required to report on Mr Methven's case until September 3. It has been given until mid-November to consider his proposal to make traders specify delivery dates when they accept deposits.

RHM looks at bakery economics

RHM, the largest baking company in Britain, is examining its entire bread-baking operation to see if further economies are needed. Although it closed its W. H. Brooks plant at Old Trafford, Manchester last month with the loss of 800 jobs, it does almost 100 bread-producing units.

Shah unveils \$68,000m five-year plan to boost Iran development

From Ali Reza Jahan-Sabhi Teheran, Aug 4... The Shah of Iran announced a \$68,000m (£28,600m) revised five-year plan, more than doubling the fund allocation and providing for an average annual growth rate of 25.9 per cent.

Under the revised plan, which ends in 1978, the country's per capita income is expected to rise from the present \$556 to \$1,521. Increased oil revenues have caused the revision.

make Iran one of the world's leading industrial countries. Mr Majidi added that Iran's foreign policy also had been taken into account in the plan, but also to ensure sufficient funds for the maintenance of armed forces.

Saudi crude auction 'deferred indefinitely'

Beirut, Aug 4... Announcement of Saudi Arabia's planned oil auction has been postponed, and may have been deferred indefinitely, the Middle East Economic Survey has hinted yesterday.

Germany is making 40pc of Granadas for UK sale

By Clifford Webb... Forty per cent of all Ford's top-of-the-range Granada saloons and 10 per cent of their new Mark Two Capris, now being sold in Britain, are imported from the group's German factories.

Both the German models are being marketed with the Ghia badge - the prestige Italian car company owned by Ford - and cost several hundreds of pounds more than British-built versions.

N Sea petrol on sale within three months

Motorists should be able to buy petrol made from North Sea crude oil within three months. At the end of next month the first North Sea oil field - the Argyll, 200 miles east of the Firth of Forth - will be in production.

Frigg field gas to power £50m ammonia plant

By Peter Hill... Decisions are expected to be taken shortly on the building of a huge ammonia plant on Scotland's east coast, costing more than £50m. It would be based on natural gas from the Frigg field in the North Sea and would be operational by 1977-8.

63,000 Datsuns Japan's export record in July

Carson, California, Aug 4... Nissan Motor Corporation, the United States importer of Japanese-built Datsun cars, said it is recalling 63,023 sporty 1973 and 1974 Z cars to correct a safety-related defect that could cause a fire.

UN machinery will supervise activities of multinationals

From Vanya Walker-Leigh Geneva, August 4... Multinational corporations, now to be called "trans-national", are to come under permanent United Nations surveillance.

United Nations action when the issue came up for discussion three weeks ago, the United States recommended deferring any decision until the middle of next year. Today's resolution is seen as a sign that governments are determined to exercise more effective control over transnationals.

Nixon adviser blames 'greedy' banks

From Our United States Economic Correspondent Washington, Aug 4... Mr Kenneth Rush, the President's Chief Economic Policy counsellor, said today that many United States banks might well face serious problems in the near future, but added: "I see no possibility of a panic or a crash."

Mr Rush said on a television programme: "Banks have been too greedy. They have been trying to make too much money for themselves."

Prohibitive costs force Co-op to close two hotels

The Co-operative Wholesale Society is to close two of its hotels - the Royal Briton at Perth, and the Allan Watson at Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire - during the next two months.

Building work at a new low for 'peak period'

Work in hand by the building trade is even lower now, when activity should be at its greatest, than earlier in the year, it was stated yesterday in the National Federation of Building Trades Employers' state-of-trade inquiry to the end of June.

Attempts to spread HMSO dispute to outside printers

By Alan Hamilton... Attempts to spread the dispute, including the efforts of the Industrial Employment Conciliation Officers, have failed.

Government proposals could result in two-tier land market, surveyors fear

By Derek Harris... Uncertainty over the Government's plans for land nationalization will continue at least until more details are released, as promised by Mr Anthony Crossland, in the autumn.

INTERIM STATEMENT Robert Kitchen Taylor & Co. Limited BUSINESS: Investment and Property Holding Company UNAUDITED RESULTS for the six months ended 31st March, 1974

Resignation of Israel bank official refused

Tel Aviv, Aug 4... Dr Moshe Zaub, governor of the Bank of Israel, last night declined to accept the resignation of Dr Meir Het, the bank's examiner of banks, which he tendered following the failure of the Israel British Bank last month.

Appointment of Israel bank official refused

On other pages Appointments vacant 5, 21 Business appointments 16 Dairy 17 Financial editor 17 Financial news 18 Industry in the regions 16 Letters 16 Management 19 Share prices 19 Bank Base Rates Table 18 Company Meeting Report: Varta 17 Interim Statements: Robert Kitchen Taylor & Co 1S Ogilvy & Mather

OGILVY & MATHER INTERNATIONAL INC. Advertising HALF-YEAR RESULTS 1974

Summary of unaudited results for the half-year ended 30 June 1974 with comparative figures for 1973. Table with columns for \$ 1974 and \$ 1973, and rows for Gross billings, Gross income, Less operating and other expenses, Profit before tax, Taxation, Profit after tax, Earnings per share, Dividends per share.

A dividend of 18 cents per share was paid on 28 February and a dividend of 22½ cents per share was paid on 31 May. A further quarterly dividend of 22½ cents per share has been declared for payment on 30 August to stockholders of record on 9 August 1974.

Management

Edited by Rodney Cowton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Heart-searching over two-tier boards

I suppose the most poignant thing in personal terms about proposals for company reform on the German model is the fact that officers of public companies could no longer be chairman and chief executive...

choice of title for his article, The Ghost at the Bargaining Table, which is based on the industrial relations findings of the British Director Project...

A practical look at Meriden

From Mr A. E. Ferrigo Sir, As an executive in the British motor-cycle industry for over 40 years (now retired), almost the whole of which were spent in the employ of the BSA/Triumph company...

The result was that the home market dwindled, helped by the government's restriction on 250cc machines for learners...

What to do about redundancy

All experts seem agreed that unemployment is likely to rise over the next 18 months. Just how far it goes up will depend on what action is taken by the Government...

sure that this is so, and for reducing the disruption which is caused by redundancy, are not surprisingly the big ones...

Market researching

From Mr Colin McDonald Sir, Quentin Crewe (July 27—"Time to Spring a surprise")...

the producer what they think of what they have been given. The question then is, how will this information be used?

Technical Lump

From Mr C. E. Hayter Sir, The problems of the oil-lump labour in the building industry have been voiced in your columns...

Industry in the regions

Tourism versus oil: a delicate balance

It is both tidy and politic that the maximum amount of on-shore activity generated by North Sea oil should be shepherded to west central Scotland...

Freight report

Cuts sought in time charters

The New England Petroleum Corporation (Nepco), an American oil company, has asked the owners of at least three tankers to be based during the boom period...

British quota of heavy wines to be increased

Property slump hits John Lewis carpet sales

Sluggish property sales may have contributed to decreases in carpet and furniture retail trade, according to the John Lewis Partnership...

Business appointments

Mr M Edwards to be new chief for Chloride

Mr Michael Edwards is to become chairman and chief executive of Chloride when Mr Edward Powell retires as chairman during this financial year...

Value for money

Woolly thinking

From Mr N. P. Palmer Sir, Would you permit me to correct what may be a misleading statement in your correspondence...

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A no-win game for the life offices



Sir Archibald Forbes, chairman of Midland and International

...looking to broaden its trading base, the need for which is clearly demonstrated by the sharply lower profit from book-making in the six months to June 30. The rise in the levy on off-course betting, small fields and too many favourites finishing first all took their toll and it was the casino interests, where takings fell in 1973, that cushioned the profit fall.

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Capital/deposit ratio problems has been an almost unquestioned article of banking faith for several years now that a northern bank could afford to have a more expanded balance sheet than its southern counterparts, on an individual commercial bank. The argument was that, by means of periodic cash injections, a group of shareholders could raise the value of the bank's capital base and thus, at a stroke, bring gear back to within acceptable limits when it looked like run-

Some of the smaller life offices, perhaps flushed with their previous success at marketing single premium bonds, have found themselves in dire straits too. And the one point on which the City seems agreed is that the Book of Lamentations has not been closed yet. So far, however, the serious problems have been contained at the fringe of the financial system. It is institutions like London & County Securities, the Stern Group, Mitton Border Priest, I. D. Herstatt and the US National Bank of San Diego that have failed, not Barclays, Land Securities, Cazenove, the Deutsche Bank or Chase Manhattan.

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A spate of failures, near-failures and rumours of failures yet to come by financial institutions has provided a grim continuo for the now familiar theme of impending economic doom. Apart from a loss of confidence in the institutions themselves, and in the financial markets they operate, there is a natural tendency to assume that an epidemic of insolencies may prove to be the harbinger, or even the cause, of economic plague. Yet despite the frequency of these institutional problems, in Britain and elsewhere, it is as hard as ever to gauge their true extent.

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The first of two articles on the troubles of financial institutions

How the days of plenty in the City came to an end

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Towards the £30 minimum wage

A major campaign around the £30 standard. The Transport Union has already decided to propose an amendment to NUPE's motion at the TUC in September. In their forthcoming book *Low Pay and How to End It*, the Union's view (to be published by Fabians on September 2, the day the TUC conference opens) Mr Alan Fisher and Mr Bernard Dix, general secretary and research officer of the union, spell out what they believe it means. "I do not think any government can really take on board a statutory backed national minimum wage unless it is prepared to accept the fact that it must intervene in the economy," Mr Dix explained this week.

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A major campaign around the £30 standard. The Transport Union has already decided to propose an amendment to NUPE's motion at the TUC in September. In their forthcoming book *Low Pay and How to End It*, the Union's view (to be published by Fabians on September 2, the day the TUC conference opens) Mr Alan Fisher and Mr Bernard Dix, general secretary and research officer of the union, spell out what they believe it means. "I do not think any government can really take on board a statutory backed national minimum wage unless it is prepared to accept the fact that it must intervene in the economy," Mr Dix explained this week.

Barlow Rand/Union An acceptable package When the original terms of the Barlow Rand-Union Corporation merger were announced in mid-July, I recommended that Union Corporation shareholders should switch into UC Investments, the junior partner with a greater orientation towards mining. Then UC Investments were 300p; on Friday they closed at 265p, whereas Union Corporation had dropped at one point to 260p from the level of 285p after the deal first emerged.

J. Coral Holdings Waiting for a move by GRA GRA Property Trust, with 27 per cent of J. Coral and now a boardroom representation, will have to long almost certainly try to arrange a merger of the two groups: though with Coral at 65p on Friday, an offer at the 135p GRA paid Giltspur for its strategic shareholding looks out of court. And since that deal was done in March of this year, GRA would need Takeover Panel permission to bid anything less within 12 months of buying the stake.

Business Diary in Europe: Fiery farmers • Bottleneck

investments and highly automated techniques. The seven farm years are a measure of the past. The demonstrations which the farmers warned, but a fraction of what can be expected if they do not get tax and fuel price concessions.

Hold-up The British wine trade has been complaining all over about the fearsome increase in documents brought about by entry to the EEC. Wine coming into Britain needs to be accompanied by all sorts of new forms and certificates before it can be passed through Customs. The industry has now gathered some facts to back its case for change. "Dick" Insoll, director of the Wine and Spirit Association, the trade's pressure group, has been hard at work preparing a report on the operation of the Community transit system and transit documentation.

Wheel spin Mercedes-Benz has run into a spot of bother with the hundreds of heavy lorries now being shipped into Britain from its main commercial vehicle manufacturing plant at Würth near Karlsruhe.

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problem is costing the Mercedes insurers over £1,000 a consignee for rectification work. The Germans are much too diplomatic to suggest that British dockers are more careful than the continental counterparts but the fact remains that they have been shipping wooden shod lorries through Rotterdam for years without significant damage problems.

Suspended It is not only prospective British home-buyers who are finding it increasingly difficult to get loans from building societies or other financial institutions. Until the beginning of September at the earliest, many Belgian banks had almost impossible to obtain credit at reasonable interest rates for new homes or other mortgage transactions.

Wheel spin Mercedes-Benz has run into a spot of bother with the hundreds of heavy lorries now being shipped into Britain from its main commercial vehicle manufacturing plant at Würth near Karlsruhe.

VARTA advertisement for batteries, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, dietetics, light & power, environmental protection. Includes Varta Report 1973 and statistics on sales and profits.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Brilliant results by Braswax

From every point of view the results of the Braswax steel processing and steel stockholding group are excellent. Without any benefit from stock profits, it doubled its pre-tax return in the year ended April 27 to a record £515,000 after reboiling from a small loss in 1972-73. Turnover put on £3m to £11.1m.

No deal yet on San Paulo Railway

The Brazilian Finance Ministry has denied that the total indemnity to be paid for five British public utilities expropriated in 1946, has yet been decided.

Nestle settles for Lyons' Findus stake

The agreement for the sale of the 50 per cent interest of Lyons & Co in Findus (UK) to Nestle has now been completed. The consideration payable in cash is based on the net assets value of Lyons' interest.

Hawkins comes in out of the cold

Reporting a net loss of £24,000 for 1973 (against one of £80,000 for 1972), Hawkins Developments says it is cutting back on competitive contracting.

Malaysian bid for Grand Central

Kuril Plantations Berhad, an unquoted Malaysian company, which nearly bought a 10.2 per cent stake in Grand Central Investment Holdings, has now come up with a cash offer of 7.5p a 10p unit for the rest of GCI.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Dividend, etc. Lists various fixed interest stocks and their performance.

Commodities

Big rise in copper stocks expected

Another hefty rise in London Metal Exchange copper stocks is expected today. Thoughts range between an increase of 9,000 and 11,000 tonnes and would bring them to 47,300 tonnes at the lower figure.

Rubber trading switch

On September 2 London rubber trading will switch from private negotiation to the open outcry system, according to Mr. Alex Caldwell, the Administrator of the United States Commodity Exchange Authority.

Wool sales to resume

Wool sales in Australia will be resumed on September 2 in Melbourne and Sydney and September 3 in Fremantle, Mr. D. Von Bihra, the chairman of the Joint Wool Selling Organization said in Sydney.

Euromarkets

Reassessing deposit rates

The panic which gripped the Eurocurrency deposit market in the wake of the Franklin National and Herstatt Bank collapses appears to be past its peak. The reaction of the market to those crises was to create the well-publicized, multi-tiered rate structure under which only the biggest and most reputable banks were able to borrow at the London Inter-Bank Offered rates, and most others—where they could obtain funds at all—had to pay substantial premiums.

Brokers' views

Several major stockbrokers are over the past week, but the market which lay behind the collapse in share prices over the past five trading sessions. References to impending recession (usually predicted for 1975) are now liberally sprinkled throughout the weekly crop of investment reviews.

The Times Share Index

Table showing share index performance: The Times Share Index, Daily, Weekly, Monthly, etc.

By John Woodland

reopening, there will be no limit.

There will be seven quarterly positions, i.e. January/March; April/June; July/September; October/December, etc. In addition, the first two single months will be quoted. Trading in the first single month's position will cease five business days prior to that calendar month.

Wool sales to resume

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Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

Table listing Eurobond prices, yields, and premiums for various countries and maturities.

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

Large table listing unit trust prices and their weekly changes across various categories.

Bank Base Rates: Barclays Bank 12%, FNCB 13%, Hill Samuel 12 1/2%, G. Hoare & Co 12 1/2%, Lloyds Bank 12%, Midland Bank 12%, Nat Westminster 12%, Shenley Trust 12 1/2%, 20th Cent Bank 12%, G. T. Whyte 13%, Williams & Glyn's 12%

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 ASSOCIATED OFFICES IN PARIS BRUSSELS & AMSTERDAM

London and Regional Market Prices
Capitalization & week's change

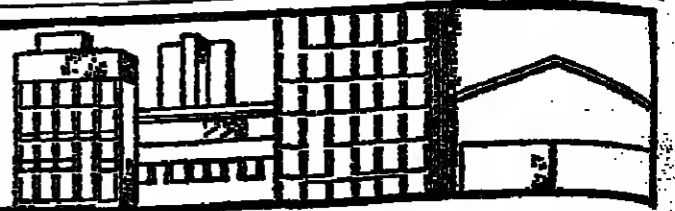
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin Today. Dealings End, Aug. 16. Contango Day, Aug. 19. Settlement Day, Aug. 28.
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

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Stock	Price	Week's %	Div. Yield	Cap. %	Company	Price	Week's %	Div. Yield	Cap. %	Company	Price	Week's %	Div. Yield	Cap. %	Company	Price	Week's %	Div. Yield	Cap. %	Company
BRITISH FUNDS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	British Funds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	British Funds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	British Funds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	British Funds
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Commonwealth	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Commonwealth	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Commonwealth	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Commonwealth
LOCAL AUTHORITIES																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Local Authorities	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Local Authorities	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Local Authorities	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Local Authorities
FOREIGN STOCKS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Foreign Stocks	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Foreign Stocks	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Foreign Stocks	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Foreign Stocks
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Banks & Disc.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Banks & Disc.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Banks & Disc.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Banks & Disc.
BREWERS AND DISTILLERIES																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Brewers & Dist.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Brewers & Dist.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Brewers & Dist.	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Brewers & Dist.
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL																				
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LABOUR																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Labour	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Labour	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Labour	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Labour
INSURANCE																				
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INVESTMENT TRUSTS																				
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PROPERTY																				
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RUBBER																				
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TEA																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tea	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tea	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tea	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tea
MISCELLANEOUS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous
MINES																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Mines	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Mines	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Mines	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Mines
SHIPPING																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Shipping	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Shipping	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Shipping	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Shipping
FINANCIAL TRUSTS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Financial Trusts	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Financial Trusts	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Financial Trusts	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Financial Trusts
REGIONS																				
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Regions	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Regions	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Regions	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Regions

Commercial and Industrial Property

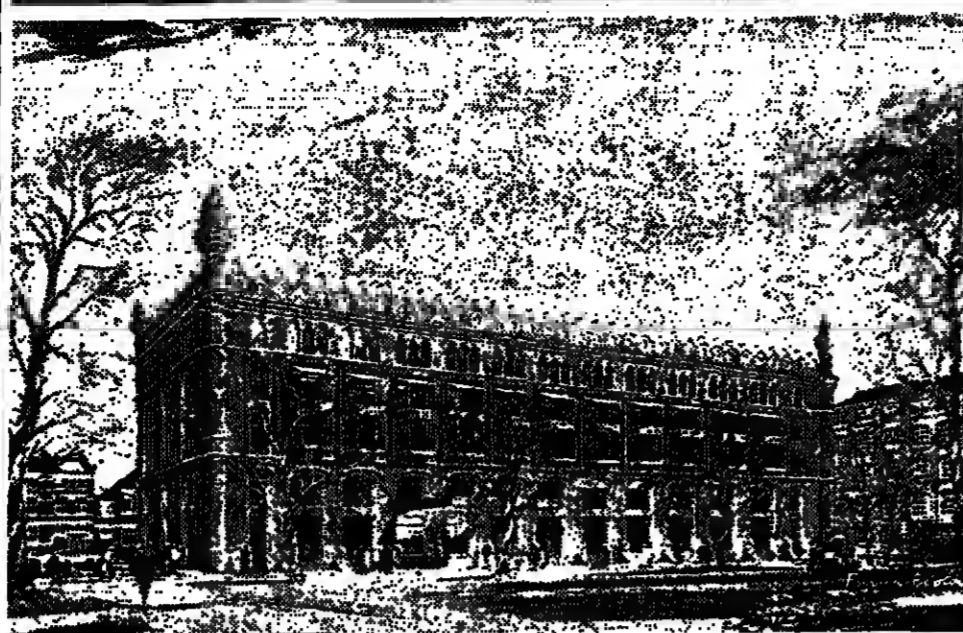


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St. Paul's House, Leeds, which is being rebuilt within the original facade.

Block with special amenities

It is not unusual for inducements, such as special facilities, decorations, full carpeting and so on, to be offered to prospective tenants of new office blocks but a new development in Bourneville may be carrying the trend a little further. Gosport House, situated between the central station and the main shopping area around the Square and due for completion this autumn, already has installed such amenities as a direct land line to the London Stock Exchange display services, telephones and telex systems and a furnished reception foyer. The aim is to save delay to tenants to the installation of such services and equipment. The block itself is unusual, being an eight-storey circular building which will

provide about 35,425 sq ft of air-conditioned offices. It is a development by Wilverley Securities, a subsidiary of Keith and Henderson. Letting is through Jones Lang Wootton and Goadby and Harding. In Leeds, work has started on one of the more exotic renovation and conversion schemes, even at a time when that kind of operation is popular. The building is St Paul's House in Park Square, which is being rebuilt inside the original facade to provide about 68,500 sq ft of air-conditioned offices. It was built originally in 1878 as a very large warehouse in a kind of Arab-Saracenic style, with minarets, an ornamental parapet and other flamboyant ornamentation.

The scheme, which has the approval both of the Department of the Environment and the Leeds Metropolitan Borough, is being carried out by the English Property Corporation, which acquired the freehold in 1971. Over the years the structure had become extremely dilapidated, and even dangerous in places. The interior is to be gutted and an extra floor added under the roof. The minarets and parapet are to be recon-

structed in their original form in glass fibre, which it is hoped will appear identical and more impervious to the atmospheric pollution that has been responsible for much of the damage to the original building. Access to the building is to be on the Park Square frontage, with the existing street closed and the square landscaped up to the building. Architects for the scheme are Booth Shaw and Partners, of Leeds, and the work due for completion in two years, is being carried out by the Fram Gerard division of Leonard Fairclough Ltd., of Manchester. Letting agents are Weatherall Hollis and Gale, of Leeds, and Benjamin Bentley and Partners, of Bradford. A notable continental sale has taken place in Belgium, where C. H. Beazer Developments (Belgium) have sold the freehold investment in their new office building on the corner of the avenue des Arts, and the rue du Maréchal, at a price in the region of £3m was paid by a large European investment fund represented by Jones Lang Wootton s.a. who previously had been project consultants and letting agents for Beazer. The build-

ing, completed just over a month ago, was pre-let in its entirety to Fonds des Batiments Scolaires, a Belgian government body.

In London, some 14,500 sq ft of leasehold offices at the corner of Kingsway and City Aldwych have been sold by the Schlesinger group of companies for more than £150,000. The space, comprising the first and second floors of the office block at 1, Kingsway, was formerly occupied by a Schlesinger subsidiary but became free when the company moved to Gloucester. It has this space to let as a building lease has been pre-let and who will occupy the whole of it. The development, incidentally, will open up to public view the medieval arch and the Holy Brook, one of Reading's lesser known waterways. The architects for the scheme are Eric G. V. Hives and Sons, and Hillier Parker May and Rowden were the letting agents.

Centre Hotels have acquired the new Magnum Hotels in New Street, Birmingham, and Humberstone Gate, Leicester. The price has not been disclosed. Together the two hotels comprise some 440 bedrooms, all with private bathrooms, radio and television. They have been taken over as going concerns and a medium-priced tariff will be operated. These acquisitions are the total number of Centre establishments in the United Kingdom to 24, with another three under construction. In addition there are three in Amsterdam, with a fourth under construction.

Gerald Ely

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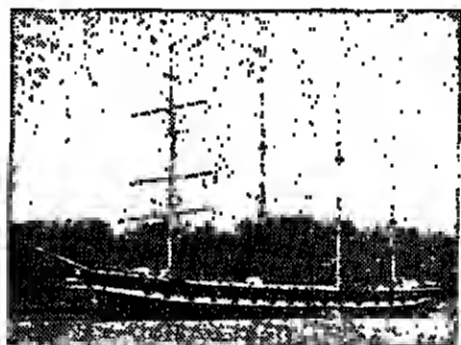
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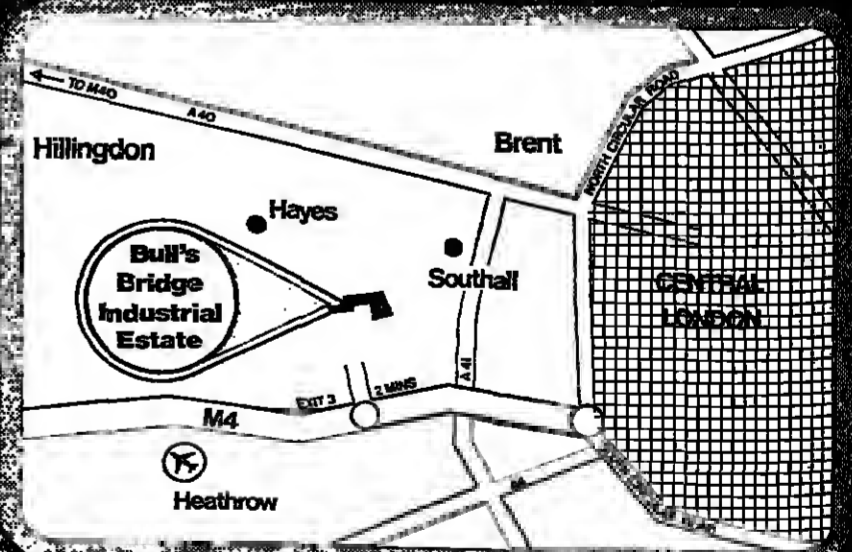
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RENTALS

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RENTALS

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W.11/2 for spacious double room furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bath...

RENTALS

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WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

Mature, Experienced and Discreet Secretary required now for the General Manager of one of London's most luxurious hotels...

MOTOR CARS

Immaculate condition. Directly imported from Italy. 1974 Jaguar XJ6 (4.2). Immediate availability...

MOTOR CARS

350 cc Mercedes M registration, low mileage, very good condition...

MOTOR CARS

LANCIA FLAMINGO 3.0, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc...

MOTOR CARS

DAIWA WOLSELEY SALOON 1.5, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc...

MOTOR CARS

LEXUS PRIMO, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc...

MOTOR CARS

ALL ROVER 3.0, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc, 1000 cc...

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 13,755

Grid for crossword puzzle No 13,755 with clues for Across and Down.

DEATHS

ADAMS—On August 4th, Sir Frank Adams, 84, died after a long illness.

BRUNDTT—On August 4th, Mrs. Brundtt, 78, died after a long illness.

SMITH—On August 4th, Mrs. Smith, 72, died after a long illness.

SMITH—On August 4th, Mrs. Smith, 72, died after a long illness.

DEATHS

SMITH—On August 4th, Mrs. Smith, 72, died after a long illness.

SMITH—On August 4th, Mrs. Smith, 72, died after a long illness.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UK HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UK HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

UK HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

Advertisement for 'MORE PEOPLE WANT LAST MINUTE HOLIDAYS' with contact number 01-837 3311.

Advertisement for 'THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 13,755'.

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Advertisement for 'TRY MRS DINO'S MOUSSAKA!' featuring a picture of a woman and text about a holiday home.

Advertisement for 'CORFU VILLAS LTD.' with address 168 Walton Street, London, S.W.3.

Advertisement for 'CEMENT IMMEDIATE DELIVERY' with contact information for Commerce International.

Advertisement for 'YACHTS AND BOATS' and 'RESISTA CARPETS'.

Advertisement for 'ALGARVE' and 'MOROCCO' holiday packages.

Advertisement for 'AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND' and 'MALTA' holiday packages.

Advertisement for 'SAPPHIRE CARPETS AND FURNITURE WAREHOUSE'.

Advertisement for 'LUXURY BATHROOM SUITES'.

Advertisement for 'YOU SUPPLY THE OCCASION, WE SUPPLY THE CLOTHES'.

Advertisement for 'THE CLEARWATER CRANE COUNTRY CATALOGUE'.

Large advertisement for 'MORE PEOPLE WANT LAST MINUTE HOLIDAYS' with contact number 01-837 3311.